ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

TRANSMITTED

WITH THE MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT,

AT THE

OPENING OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE THIRTIETH CONGRESS,

1847....1848.

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REPORT

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COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
November 30, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to submit a general view of the condition and operations of this branch of the public service, during the past year.

Since my last annual report, nineteen Creeks, forty-four Chickasaws, and a few Cherokees—number not known—have emigrated themselves; and one thousand six hundred and twenty-three Choctaws, have been removed from east of the Mississippi to the country of their brethren, west of that river. A small number of Miamies, left behind when the great body of that tribe was removed from Indiana last year, chiefly to enable them to gather and dispose of their fall crops, are, it is believed, either now on the way, or are about starting for the west.

By the treaties of 1838 and 1840 with the Miamies, and by a joint resolution of Congress, approved March 3d, 1845, a portion of them, about one hundred and sixty-one in number, are permitted to receive their annuities, and, as they claim, to remain permanently in Indiana. It is regretted that they could not have been removed also, as it is believed that it would have been both better for themselves, and beneficial to their brethren who have emigrated. It is doubtful whether they can prosper and be happy where they are. They will, in a great measure, be compelled to give up their own peculiar customs and habits, without adequate previous preparation for the change; be under the operation of laws, the reasons for, and advantages of which, they do not understand; while they must soon be hemmed in by a thrifty white population, having in its superior resources, and greater energy and industry, every advantage over them; and with which, from their origin, peculiar tastes, and backwardness of improvement, they cannot coalesce nor be upon any footing of equality. With their brethren west, they could live as they have been accustomed; their peculiar social wants and sympathies could be gratified, and they would not, as among the whites, be discouraged, by great disparity in circumstances and civilization, from making proper exertions for improving their condition. From being now somewhat advanced in the elements of civilized life, they would serve as an example for the emulation of their brethren west, and as a guide to them in the brighter path upon which they themselves had entered. It is hoped that, even before they suffer in any material degree from the

disadvantages under which they must necessarily labor where they are, they will become convinced that it would be far better for them to emigrate and be with their brethren in the west.

A portion of the Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi, whose lands in Iowa were purchased by the treaty of October 11th, 1842, that, at the date of my report last year, had halted in the Pottowatomie country, have since gone forward; so that the whole of those united tribes are now comfortably settled in the new country assigned them, by their own consent, on the head waters of the Osage river, immediately south of the Shawnees. Now that they are beyond the reach of those unhappy influences, engendered by the proximity of an Indian and white frontier population, and so greatly prejudicial to both, it is hoped that, with the aid of judicious efforts, and advice from the agents of the government, they will soon commence and pursue a course of improvement, which, in a few years, will be attended with gratifying results in their moral and social advancement. Though the Department labored without success, during the past year, to induce them to consent to the establishment of schools among them, and to turn their attention in some degree to agricultural pursuits, it does not feel discouraged, but hopes, ere long, to be able to effect a change in their prejudices and feelings on these important subjects.

Confident hopes were entertained that all the Choctaws remaining east of the Mississippi, would, before this time, have been removed, but the Department has been greatly disappointed. Under the circumstances stated in my report of last year, the contract for their removal, made on the 5th September, 1844, with Alexander Anderson and others, and which expired by limitation on the 31st of December, 1846, was extended to the 1st day of June last. It is due to the new agents, who then took charge of the business, to state that it was pushed forward with a greater degree of energy than it had been before; yet, at the end of the period of extension—during a space of almost three years—there were nearly as many still remaining east as had gone west; only a little over a moiety of the number (seven thousand) estimated to be east when the contract was entered into, having been removed. Efforts were made to induce the Department to consent to a further extension of the contract, or to grant a new one on the same terms as those of the old contract; but both propositions were declined. It was considered that this system had been fairly tried, under circumstances as favorable to success as could well be enjoyed, but had in effect failed; or, at least, had accomplished results so limited and unsatisfactory, that it became the duty of the Department to endeavor to devise some other mode, which would probably be more successful. After much inquiry, and a full examination of the subject, it was determined to take the whole business into the hands of the government, to be managed by agents of its own selection and appointment; and measures have been adopted accordingly.

It having been represented that individuals, who were connected with the emigration of those Indians under the expired contract, had, in the expectation of its being renewed or extended, collected

and prepared parties of Indians for emigration, and thereby incurred expense, the Superintendent was authorized to receive all such, and to pay to the persons who collected them a just remuneration for their services and expenses; or, if they so desired, to permit them to remove the parties to the Choctaw country west, allowing them a reasonable sum therefor, not to exceed the average rate which it cost the government to remove similar parties, or the price stipulated in the contract with Anderson and others.

It may not be improper here to give a brief explanation of the situation of these Indians, and of the position held by the general government towards them. The 14th article of the treaty of Dancing Rabbit creek, of 1830, by which the Choctaws sold all their remaining lands east of the Mississippi, and agreed to remove west of that river, provided that each Choctaw head of a family, desirous of remaining and becoming a citizen of the States, should be permitted to do so, on signifying to the agent his intention to that effect, within six months after the ratification of the treaty; and thereupon should be entitled to six hundred and forty acres of land, and for each unmarried child, over ten years of age, living in the family, three hundred and twenty acres, and for each child under ten one hundred and sixty acres, to be secured to them in fee simple, if they resided on the lands for five years from the ratification of the treaty, with the intention of becoming citizens. It was also stipulated that such persons should not lose the privilege of a Choctaw citizen; but that, if they ever remove, they were not to be entitled to any portion of the annuities of the nation. It being represented that there were many persons entitled to the benefit of the provisions of this article, who, from circumstances beyond their control, had been prevented from complying with the conditions imposed by it, Congress authorized the appointment of commissioners to investigate their claims, whose report, so far as confirmed by the President and Secretary of War, should be final. Where the Indians were found entitled, and the land could be allotted to them consistently with the provisions of the treaty, that was to be so done; but where the land had been sold, or was so encumbered that it could not be so assigned to them, they were to be given certificates entitling them to enter elsewhere the same quantity of unsold lands of the United States. Of these certificates, which are denominated scrip, not more than one half was to be delivered to said Indians until after their removal to the Choctaw country west of the Mississippi, leaving it discretionary with the Department to deliver the other half, either east or west of that river as might be deemed most advisable and proper. By a subsequent law Congress funded the half not deliverable east, at the rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, allowing an annual interest of five per cent. thereon. It will thus be seen that, with those who elected to remain, the relations of the general government had become materially changed. It had no further special duties to perform, or peculiar obligations to fulfil towards them, but to set apart and secure to them the lands to which they were entitle under the treaty. This was done as far as possible, and when not, the best practica-

ble remedial measure was adopted. They had severed their connexion with the general government as wards, and voluntarily placed themselves under the legislative control of the States. Their situation was, however, an unhappy one. In the midst of, and far inferior to, an increasing white population, they could not prosper; but on the contrary, must decline and eventually become outcasts if they remained where they were. They also were an incubus upon the improvement and prosperity of the sections of country where they resided, and the State of Mississippi especially, within whose limits the great body of them were, was anxious to be relieved from their presence. Under these circumstances, the general government, at the request and urgent solicitation of the delegations in Congress from the States of Alabama and Mississippi, took them again in charge, and assumed the obligation of removing all who could be prevailed upon to go to the country of their brethren west of the Mississippi, who were willing to receive them; where they would be free from those influences operating east, for their decline if not entire destruction, and where they would feel more at home, and be more prosperous and happy. The government in thus resuming, to some extent, its former relations towards these people, and thereby subjecting itself to a heavy expense, felt justified in making such arrangements as were deemed necessary for the protection and security of their property. Hence a portion of their scrip was funded, and the balance directed to be paid over to them in such a manner as was deemed most beneficial for them, and at the same time best adapted to facilitate their removal. The especial policy and object of funding a portion of the scrip was to put them, with respect to an annual income, upon some footing of equality with their brethren west, who receive large annuities from the government, in which, by the treaty, they are not permitted to participate, while the remainder would enable them to adjust their affairs east, and procure such articles on their arrival in the west, as would place them upon a similar equality with respect to the necessaries and conveniences of life.

The scrip issued was placed in the hands of the agent for the tribe, to be delivered to the Indians as they were emigrated by the contractors; and by regulations established by the General Land Office, it was made receivable for lands from a transferee of an Indian, only where the transfer had been witnessed and certified to by that agent. The first instructions enjoined that it should not be delivered to the Indians until after their removal west, unless its payment east would manifestly tend to facilitate their emigration, in which event the agent was authorized to deliver it after the parties had started for their new homes, or assembled for that purpose under such circumstances as to justify the belief that they would certainly go. The greater part of the scrip that has been delivered has been so paid; but, on a full consideration of the whole subject, the Department is satisfied that, instead of having expedited the emigration, it has greatly retarded it, in consequence of the contest carried on between speculators and those preferring claims against the Indians, to get possession of it—most, if not all of whom had

acquired more or less influence over the Indians, through which they would endeavor to delay their emigration, in the hope more effectually of securing the scrip, which, in most instances, has been obtained from them for a very inadequate consideration.

By the late treaty with the united nation of Chippewas, Ottawas, and Pottowatomies, they were allowed two years from the 23d of July, 1846, within which to remove from their separate residences, near Council Bluffs, on the Missouri, and on the Osage river, to their new country, purchased of the Kanzas, where they are all again to be united and live together. Through the judicious counsel and prudent efforts of the able and efficient Superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, however, they were induced to agree to remove this fall, provided the moneys stipulated in the treaty to enable them to do so were sent out in season. This was done—the payment made to them—and they have carried, or are carrying out their promises in good faith—those from the Bluffs having, at the last accounts, advanced a considerable distance on the route, and those from the Osage having either started, or were about starting. It is confidently expected that, with the exception of a small band which determined to remain and hunt on the headwaters of the Des Moines, as has been their practice heretofore, all will arrive in their new country in season to make the requisite arrangements for their comfort during the winter, and be prepared to commence their farming operations with the opening of the spring.

The 5th article of the treaty of January 14, 1846, with the Kanzas, provides that, if the lands still held and retained by them, west of those ceded by the first article of that treaty, are deficient in timber, the President shall cause a suitable country to be laid off for them, near the western boundary of their cession to the government; in which event, they cede the remainder of their country not ceded by the first article of the treaty. In the contingency mentioned, the running of the western boundary of that cession, as provided for in the third article, would have been a useless and unnecessary expense. It was therefore determined first to explore the country about where the line would run, and west of it. This was done, and the country found to be without sufficient timber to render it a suitable and comfortable home for the Kanzas. The agent, Major Cummins, who made the exploration, was instructed in that case to select some other section that would answer the purpose. He accordingly selected and caused to be laid off, by well defined metes and bounds, a tract twenty miles square, on the head waters of the Neosho, south of the Shawnees, and immediately west of the new country of the Sacs and Foxes. Major Harvey, the Superintendent at St. Louis, having approved the selection and recommended its confirmation, it was submitted through you to the President and confirmed accordingly. It is expected that the Kanzas will remove to this country early in the spring, in time to put in their crops, and to make other requisite and necessary arrangements for the year.

The Winnebagoes have only been awaiting the purchase of [illegible] home for them, in conformity with the third article of the tr[illegible]

October 13th, 1846, in order to commence their removal from the valuable lands they now occupy in Iowa, which they ceded to the United States, and which are already beginning to be required for settlement and cultivation, by the rapidly increasing population of that State. By the terms of the treaty, the country for their future residence was to be explored and selected by their own people, or by an agent of their own appointment; and soon after the treaty was concluded, Mr. H. M. Rice, duly appointed as their agent, explored and selected for them the section of country lying between the Watab river, a tributary of the Mississippi, on the south, and the Long Prairie river, and the Crow Wing into which it empties, on the north. Although this is high up on the Mississippi, and at present considerably in advance of our white population, yet the Department desired that they would select a position still further north, in order that, for a long time to come, they might be beyond the reach of our population, now so rapidly extending in that quarter; and until, under the beneficial operation of the system of policy now being pursued for their improvement, they would be better fitted for living in contact, and for intermingling freely with the whites. They would not, however, consent to go elsewhere; and as the land belonged to the Chippewas of the Mississippi and Lake Superior, it became necessary to enter into negotiations with them for it.

One reason which has been urged in favor of the Winnebagoes being located at this point, is that they will be interposed to some extent, and be the means of preserving peace, between the Sioux and the Chippewas, who are hereditary enemies, and are engaged in frequent collisions; and between whom there has for some time been no little danger of serious difficulties and bloodshed. This and other considerations led the Department to determine, if practicable, to acquire also from the Chippewas an additional tract adjoining and north of that intended for the Winnebagoes, lying between the Long Prairie and Leaf rivers—both emptying into the Crow Wing—the extreme northeast point of which is high up on the dividing line between the Sioux and Chippewas. This is a desirable country, well adapted to the principal branches of agriculture, and well suited for a residence for the Menomonies or other Indians who may prefer a northern location. The negotiations were successful; two treaties having been made with different parties of the Chippewas, alleging separate interests in the lands, by which they ceded both the tracts mentioned, containing about 1,557,000 acres. These treaties have already been submitted for the consideration of yourself and the President, and, if approved, for transmission to the Senate for its constitutional action. It is important that they be finally acted on at an early day, in order that, if ratified, the Winnebagoes may have ample time to prepare for removal, and be enabled to take possession of their new country sufficiently early to put in their crops, and to make other requisite arrangements in the spring for a permanent residence.

Without the lands thus ceded by the Chippewas, they still have sufficient quantity, west of the Mississippi, for a suitable and

comfortable residence for the whole of them, now living both east and west of that river. As stated in my last annual report, they are now scattered over so immense an extent of country, that but little, if any thing, can be done for their civilization and improvement, while whiskey-sellers and other persons of an improper character, have free access to them, to take advantage of their weaknesses, corrupt their morals, and rob them of their means, in defiance of all the efforts and exertions of the officers of the government. It would be far better for them if they were all concentrated in their country west, where they could be almost effectually protected from the pernicious influences now operating to bring down upon them misery and degradation. The lands they still own east of the Mississippi, and of a line extended nearly due north from lake Winibegoshish, through the "big fork," to Rainy lake, our northern boundary, lie between that boundary and a line nearly due west from opposite the junction of the Crow Wing with the Mississippi river, to about 92° 18′ or 20′ of longitude, thence due north to the St. Louis river, and down that river to Lake Superior. It is computed at 10,743,000 acres, some of which is represented to be well adapted for settlement and cultivation by a white population, and a portion to be valuable for its mineral resources; but the greater part is believed to be of comparatively little value for any purposes of civilized life: on these points, however, the Department has no authentic information. A great number of these Indians live south of this section, on lands ceded by them to the United States by former treaties; and from which they are under obligations to remove whenever required by the President. For the convenience and benefit of the white population, as well as for their own good, they should be notified at an early period to leave these lands, and to seek a home on their own further north. In doing this, they should be encouraged to settle as near the Mississippi as possible, in order to be convenient to the agency, which it is in contemplation to remove from Lapointe, on Lake Superior, where it now is, to some point on or near and west of the Mississippi. On that river, the agency will be nearer and more convenient to the great body of the Indians, particularly if those now on the ceded lands settle in that quarter, while it will have a tendency to draw all of those east in that direction; and, in conjunction with other proper measures, gradually to incline them in favor of a removal and settlement west of the Mississippi.

The commissioners appointed to negotiate with the Chippewas, were instructed to proceed to the Menomonie country, on finishing that duty, for the purpose of negotiating with them also, for the lands they yet own in Wisconsin. The acquisition by the government of these lands, now much wanted for settlement and cultivation, is of much consequence to our white population, and to the prosperity of that section of Wisconsin; while it would be much better for the Indians, surrounded and pressed upon as they in a great measure are by whites, and suffering all the evils and disadvantages of such a position—to them an unnatural and unfortunate one—to sell out and remove elsewhere. Their situation is similar

to that of the Winnebagoes, and the same strong and cogent reasons that exist in favor of a change in the one case, obtain also in the other. One of the commissioners was taken ill and obliged to return before reaching the Chippewa country, and the other was so unwell, after terminating the negotiations with the Chippewas, as to be unable to proceed to the Menomonie country. He returned through Wisconsin, however, and had some opportunity of gathering information as to the views and feelings of the Menomonies on the subject of a cession of their lands. He was perfectly satisfied that to make a treaty with them now, on any thing like reasonable terms, or upon conditions that would be judicious and satisfactory to the government, is utterly impracticable. They are greatly in debt to traders and others, and are almost entirely under the influence and control of their creditors and half-breed relatives, who, expecting to profit largely by what may be allowed for their lands, not only stimulate them to demand an exorbitant price, but dissuade them from treating at present on any terms, in the hope that the resolution of the Senate, of March 3d, 1843, which prohibits provision being made in treaties with the Indians for the payment of debts, will be repealed. In this I trust and believe they will be disappointed. The resolution was a wise and salutary provision, and has been attended with the most beneficial results. Before its adoption, traders and others, in anticipation of a treaty being made with a tribe, in which debts would be provided for, induced them recklessly to run in debt, by every means by which they could tempt their uncontrolled and unregulated fancy and inclinations, so that a great, if not the greater portion of the consideration paid for their lands, fell into their hands. Treaties, in fact, were made almost exclusively for the benefit of such persons; for, through their influence over the Indians, they could dictate whatever terms they pleased. Being immediately and constantly associated with the Indians, and having the power through credits and representations to make them believe that they are their best and only true friends and benefactors, their influence is still most powerful—greater probably than that of the government is or can be; yet, since the adoption of the resolution in question, the pernicious system of excessive credits, in anticipation of a treaty, has in a great measure diminished. Under these circumstances, the Department has been compelled, at least for the present, to abandon all idea of negotiating with the Menomonies.

From the accompanying papers (marked F) it will be perceived, that difficulties of a grave character exist among the Stockbridge Indians in Wisconsin. A law of March 3d, 1843, passed at their own request, or on the application of a number of them, made them citizens, and provided for a division of the lands in their reservation among them in severalty. By an act of August 6th, 1846, this law was repealed, and the Stockbridges restored to their position and customs as Indians, except such as preferred remaining citizens, and would come forward and register their names with the sub-agent, within three months. The reservation was then to be divided between the parties, in proportion to numbers—one part to

be called the citizen, and the other the Indian district—and the lands in the former to be allotted in severalty, as under the first law. The citizen party refused to come forward and enrol their names, alleging that they were already invested with citizenship and all its privileges, of which Congress had no power to deprive them; and that they were unwilling to do anything that would lead to the assignment, which had been made of the lands, being disturbed—many of them having been sold to innocent purchasers for a valuable consideration. There was thus no basis for a division of the reservation between the parties, and it being therefore impracticable to proceed further in the execution of the law, according to its intent, the Department required the sub-agent to obtain all the information in his power, upon the several questions involved, in order that the whole subject might be fully laid before Congress for its consideration.

It will be seen that the citizen party insist upon the right of citizenship, notwithstanding their refusal to enrol their names; whilst the other party contend that, in consequence of that omission, all are again Indians, and the lands not subject to division; and they have called upon the sub-agent to have all white persons removed from them. The right of many of those claiming to be members of either party, particularly the Indians, to be considered as Stockbridges, entitled to an interest in the lands, is strongly contested; and the residences and improvements of those of the one, are so intermingled with those of the other, it would seem impracticable to separate them in the manner required by the law, without compelling many, at a great sacrifice, to abandon their property. It would also appear that a number of individuals, of both parties, have sold the lands which were allotted to them to persons who purchased in good faith, and for a valuable consideration; and who, if the law of 1846 were carried out, would lose what they paid for the lands, and what they may have expended in improvements, as well as their time and labor. The Department is disposed to concur in the opinion expressed by Governor Dodge, that the only practicable remedy for the difficulties which have thus arisen, is for the Stockbridges to dispose of the whole of their lands, and such of them as choose, to remove where they can adopt such form of government as they may prefer.

Unfortunate collisions have taken place between some of the tribes in the northwest, attended by bloodshed and loss of life. The Sioux, one of the most restless and mischievous of our tribes, have committed attacks on the Omahas, the Ottoes, the friendly Pawnees north of the Platte, and the Winnebagoes; which, in the case of the Ottoes, led to retaliation, followed by a second attack from the Sioux. These Indians are divided into separate bands, headed by different chiefs, and occupy a large extent of country on and above the St. Peter's, between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. A portion only—those living on the Mississippi—receive annuities from the United States; and having been concerned in the attack upon the Winnebagoes, orders were given for their punishment, and for withholding their annuities until they made full and

ample satisfaction. Understanding this, they manifested contrition for the outrage, and voluntarily came forward to make such reparation as the case admitted. They acknowledged their error in suitable and becoming terms to the Winnebagoes, and entered into an arrangement to pay them four thousand dollars, in four equal annual payments, for the use and benefit of the relatives of the individuals who were slain. This arrangement was entirely satisfactory to the Winnebagoes, and a good understanding seems now to subsist between the two parties. The Winnebagoes were much exasperated, and it was with considerable difficulty that, with some of the Pottowatomies who had come to their aid, they could be prevented from taking violent revenge. Much credit is due to General Fletcher, the sub-agent, to the commanding officer at Fort Atkinson, and to Henry M. Rice, esq., a resident trader, who, by their firm and judicious efforts, prevented such a result; and who with the co-operation of the agent for the Sioux, were mainly instrumental in settling the difficulty in the peaceful and satisfactory manner in which it was arranged. The other attacks were made by the Sioux residing on or in the vicinity of the Missouri river, to whom we pay no annuities, and whom it is difficult to control. A party of Pawnees residing south of the Platte, who are also evil disposed and treacherous, made an attack in the spring on a party of emigrants to Oregon, and did much mischief, though no lives are reported to have been lost. Instructions were given for the punishment of both them and the Sioux by a military force, and for taking hostages for their future good conduct. For the more effectual protection of our citizens emigrating to Oregon, and of the Omahas, Ottoes, Poncas, and other weak tribes in the vicinity of the Sioux, on the Platte and Missouri rivers, it may be advisable to establish a small military post somewhere near the mouth of the Platte, which, in connexion with that to be established near Grand Island, on that river, would, no doubt, effectually prevent such occurrences in future. An attack was also made last winter by the Iowas on a lodge of the Omahas; but the Department having directed their annuities to be withheld, they made satisfactory reparation for the injury inflicted. This prompt and determined course on the part of the government will, it is believed, prevent any such conduct on their part in future, and have a salutary effect upon other tribes who were present at the council at which the matter was arranged.

With the exception, possibly, of the mischievous Pawnees, south of the Platte, it is not known that any of the Indians, with whom we have any immediate intercourse, or over whom this Department has any means of exercising a control, have been concerned in the attacks upon our trains on the Santa Fe route, during the past year. Property, which was, no doubt, plundered from the trains, has been found in the possession of two or three of the tribes with whom we have treaties, and to whom we pay annuities, but they alleged having received it in trade from other Indians out on the prairies. They all cheerfully gave it up, so far as is known, except the Pawnees, who were compelled to do so. An impression

has prevailed that the depredations were committed principally by the Camanche and other Indians from within the borders of Texas. If so, it must have been those whose principal haunts are far up on the Rio Grande and the Arkansas, with whom we have had no intercourse, and who are beyond the reach and control of the agents of this Department. It is the opinion of the agents that there is no effectual mode of checking them in their career of mischief, and teaching them proper respect for the United States, but by sending a military force to chastise them, and to compel them to enter into stipulations for their good conduct hereafter. It is, however, the impression that a portion, at least, of the marauders were from New Mexico, and that some of the attacks were instigated, if not participated in, by white persons, whether Mexicans, or renegades and out-laws from our own country, is not known. The measures and precautions which it is understood were directed by you to be adopted by the military branch of the service will, it is hoped, prevent their repetition.

The late treaty with the Cherokees appears to have produced the utmost harmony among those people. All party distinctions and past misunderstandings have been laid aside, and they are moving forward with increased acceleration in the path of civilization and improvement.

In my report of last year I stated that measures were in progress for making the settlement required by this treaty; and, that hopes were entertained of completing it at an early period in the then approaching session of Congress. It was subsequently ascertained, however, that this could not be done until the claims and other business before the commissioners, then sitting under the seventeenth article of the treaty of 1835, were determined and fully disposed of. Those commissioners—being the fourth board which had been appointed under that article since 1836—convened at the capitol for the transaction of business July 31, 1846, and continued in session about one year, the period for which the commission had been renewed. Ample notice of the time and place of their meeting, and of their readiness to enter upon the discharge of their duties was given, and every necessary facility afforded to the claimants and their attorneys for the presentation and thorough examination of their respective demands; and, from their report to the President, of July 23, 1847, it appears that they have acted upon and decided every case which was before them. They say that "the claimants were not taken by surprise, nor were their cases ever acted on without giving time for preparation. After all proper delay, the claims brought from the west by the former commissioners were taken up and examined several times with care. The commissioners have succeeded in disposing of every one of these claims; and they now complete their official term, after having examined and determined upon every case before them, and, without a single demand unadjusted and undecided." The recorded proceedings of these commissioners, in which are set forth their opinions at length in every case, evince a degree of ability, impartiality, and patient investigation, which would render their decis-

ions "final," in the judgment of every one who is not influenced by interest, if, indeed, they were not expressly made so by the provisions of the treaty. Regarding these claims, and all others arising under the treaty of 1835, as having thus been disposed of, the Department has resumed its inquiries, and will now be able, it is confiently expected, to complete the settlement referred to in a satisfactory manner at an early day.

The Indians residing on the Allegany and Cattaraugus reservations, in the State of New York, are represented to be in a favorable and highly prosperous condition. The course pursued by the Department, in refusing to recognize those chiefs and other persons claiming authority, who declined to comply with the requirements of the laws, passed by that State in 1845, for the better protection and municipal organization of the tribe, was attended with the happiest results, and all parties have now quietly acquiesced in its just and salutary provisions.

Feelings of much dissatisfaction continue to exist among those who reside upon the Tonawanda reservation, in relation to the treaties of 1838 and 1842, by which that reservation was ceded to Messrs. Ogden and Fellows. It is regretted that they do not see the propriety of peaceably removing therefrom, and of joining their brethren on the reservations above named, which are amply sufficient in extent and resources for all; and where, under the fostering care extended to them both by the General and State Governments, and the benevolent efforts of the Society of Friends for their moral and intellectual improvement, they would soon forget their supposed grievances, and become happy and contented in the enjoyment of a permanent and undisputed home.

The Senecas declined acceding to the transfer of their funds, now in the Ontario Bank of New York, to the Treasury of the United States, as provided for by the third section of the act of June 27, 1846. This was occasioned, no doubt, by the difference in the rate of interest which they would thereby be entitled to receive.

The report of the commissioner appointed under the fourth section of the same act, "to ascertain what annuities or moneys have been wrongfully withholden from the Seneca Indians, by the late sub-agent of the United States, and so lost to them," has just been received, and in a few days will be laid before you for transmission to Congress as required by law.

In remitting the annuities for the present year, instructions were given, under the authority vested in the President by the act passed at the last session of Congress, to pay them over in all cases to heads of families and others entitled, according to their just proportions, instead of to the chiefs, or to such persons as they might designate, as required by the previous law. They were paid over accordingly, greatly to the satisfaction of the Indians generally, except in the case of the Sacs and Foxes, whose agent, on pretexts wholly unjustifiable, paid over theirs to the chiefs, much to the injury of the mass of the tribe; as a fair division of the annuities would hava given to each individual from *thirty-two* to *thirty-five dollars*, whereas it is reported that a large portion of them received

only *three dollars;* and many, it is represented, are already beginning to complain of their consequent necessitous condition. As far as possible, all the facts and circumstances connected with this nefarious transaction will be fully inquired into.

The different mode of payment authorized by the new law is equitable and just, and cannot but be attended with the most beneficial results. Instead of the chiefs and their special retainers and friends, or interested white persons by whom they are influenced and controlled, becoming enriched at the expense of the tribe generally, as under the old system, it will give to every one his just and proper share of the bounty of the government. It will also tend to check the inordinate system of credits which has heretofore prevailed, by which the idle and profligate were enabled to pledge and sweep away a great portion of the funds of the tribe, so that when the rapacity of the chiefs and their friends had been satisfied, there was but little, if any thing, left for the upright and industrious. A copy of the instructions, which more fully show the unfairness and injustice of the old system, and the propriety and advantages of the new, accompanies this report, (marked A.)

The annuities of many of the tribes are very large—much greater in amount than is requisite for their actual wants at any one period. The consequence is, that after supplying their more immediate necessities, the excess enables them to indulge in idleness and profligacy, or is wasted for articles of no real value to them. They will scarcely provide for their wants even during the winter; and when spring comes, they are in so great a state of destitution, that they are compelled to resort to hunting for a subsistence, instead of turning their attention to agriculture. It has, therefore, been determined, after a full consideration of the subject, that when the annuities are sufficiently large, they shall be divided and paid semi-annually—one-half in the fall, and the other half in the spring. The different tribes have been notified accordingly, and, so far as is known, all cheerfully consent to the arrangement, except one tribe, acting under the influence of interested white men, who are opposed to the change for purposes of their own. The spring payment will so far supply their necessities as to enable them to put in their crops, and, to some extent at least, await their maturing: where not sufficient for the latter purpose, a portion can resort to hunting, and the others remain to attend to the cultivation of the crops; and they will be encouraged to pursue this course. In this way much more attention may be paid to the peaceful and more profitable pursuits of agriculture, which will tend greatly to their advancement in civilization, and to increase the resources and comforts of civilized life among them.

Statements G and H exhibit the investments in stocks on Indian account, and the annual interest thereon; and also the amounts not invested but held in trust by the United States, the interest upon which is annually appropriated by Congress. In conformity with the policy stated in my report of last year, the large sum of $1,096,564 81, being balances of old appropriations not required for current expenditures, or the objects of which had beem accom-

plished, has been carried to the "surplus fund," as the cancelling of such appropriations is usually termed. I also stated in that report, that large balances had accumulated in the hands of some of the agents, and that they had been required in all cases to return all amounts, not needed for expenditure within the last fiscal year, to the Treasury, where they would not only be more safe, but, instead of lying idle with the agents, would be available for other purposes. The sum thus withdrawn from the custody of agents, and replaced in the Treasury, was $284,849 91.

A large number of claims for land purchased of individual grantees, under various Indian treaties, have been examined during the past year. All sales shown to have been made for a fair and reasonable consideration, and the money either paid or deposited with the Department, have been reported to and approved by the President; and the deeds or other evidences of sale transmitted to the General Land Office, or to the purchasers, with a view to the issuing of patents. Claims for lands purchased of reservees—Indians or persons of Indian descent—under the treaty with the Pottowatomies of October 20, 1832, have also been presented for approval. It appears by an opinion of the Attorney General, that the title in fee simple to these lands still remains with the United States; the reservees having, by the terms or provisions of the treaty, retained only a possessory or usufruct right. The Chippewas, Ottawas, and Pottowatomies, in the treaty of 1833, sought to remedy this state of things, and to obtain the title in fee simple with the power to alienate; but the Senate refused its sanction, and the provision was stricken out. Sales having been made, however, of certain portions of these reservations, Congress, by special enactment in 1839, and again in 1841, relinquished the fee simple or reversionary interest of the United States to the purchasers, upon their satisfying the President that they had paid to the reservees a fair and adequate consideration. By the treaty of 1837 with the Pottowatomies, the sum of $4,000 was stipulated to be paid to one of those reservees for five sections, and Congress, in 1339, appropriated a similar amount for five other sections relinquished to the United States.

There are still a number of sections which are claimed by individual reservees, all of whom, it is believed, have emigrated and are now residing with their brethren west of the Mississippi river. Some have sold to individual purchasers and no doubt received their money; while the others are insisting upon the same compensation from the government which was paid to those who have relinquished to the United States. The lands embraced in these reservations lie in Illinois, are favorably located, and much wanted for settlement and cultivation; and the people of that State are solicitous for the extinguishment in some way of the Indian title, so that they can be brought into market. The peculiar situation of these lands, and the necessity which exists for some speedy action, have thus induced me to bring the subject to your special notice.

A statistical account of the various tribes, including a digest of their industrial means, peculiar habits, resources, and employments

of every kind, is essential to an accurate knowledge of their condition and prospects; and would very materially aid the Department in suggesting the most suitable measures for their improvement. The act of June 27, 1846, requires "a census and statistics to be taken and collected" by the officers of the Department, and a subsequent resolution of the Senate authorizes the Secretary of War to avail himself of all the means at his command, to collect such practical information respecting their "condition, habits, and progress," as may be considered useful and necessary. Neither the act nor resolution, however, provided any specific means for the purpose, or enjoined further action than might be found convenient and practicable, consistently with a proper execution of the current and ordinary duties of the agents and sub-agents. The result of these efforts, so far as the same had then come to hand, was communicated to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the House of Representatives, prior to the adjournment of the last session of Congress, and was printed in report No. 53. From the lateness of the season, and the hurried manner in which the facts and statements had necessarily to be taken, they are probably less accurate than they could have been rendered under other and more favorable circumstances. But they contain important information which has been made the basis of further and more extensive inquiries.

The 5th section of the act of March 3, 1847, makes provision for collecting and digesting "such statistics and materials" as will tend to illustrate the "history, present condition, and future prospects of the Indian tribes of the United States." Under this provision, immediate steps were taken to prepare and issue to the agents and sub-agents, forms for a complete census; and there has also been prepared a list of queries, so arranged as to direct attention to the most useful and important topics. These inquiries have been sent not only to the agents of the Department, but to persons in every quarter of the country, who were supposed to possess the desired information; and, in this manner, an extended interest has been imparted to the subject. The office has endeavored to avail itself of the observations and experience of persons who have passed much of their lives on the frontiers, as well as others, however widely situated, who have directed their researches and given their reflection to the history and condition of the red man, and who feel a benevolent desire for his elevation and improvement. The answers which have already been received are of the most interesting and satisfactory character.

The cause of education is steadily advancing. The effects already experienced have satisfied the Department of its great importance. While tribes remain in the aboriginal or hunter state, there can be no just or adequate appreciation among them of the practical use of letters. Agriculture and the mechanic arts serve to awaken a new interest, by teaching them the true relations they bear to each other and to the civilized community around them. It is at this point that the advantages of education are first seen and appreciated. A knowledge of letters is no longer regarded as an

acquisition, which, though adapted to the wants of the white man, is superfluous and wholly unnecessary among themselves. Such were the opinions heretofore entertained by a large majority of the tribes, but the prejudices of the chiefs and other leading men in favor of the hunter state, and against the introduction and use of letters, are gradually giving way before the steady progress of instruction.

Schools have been kept up and maintained among all the tribes where they had before obtained a footing. In some, the number of teachers and places of instruction have been greatly increased; whilst those who have made the greatest progress, and are farthest advanced in civilization, are asking for a higher order of information, and manifesting an increased interest for the extension to, and more general diffusion of, the benefits of the system among the females.

Time and experience are essential to the development and correct application of all systems of instruction. The practice so long pursued of selecting a few boys from the different tribes, and placing them at our colleges and high schools, has failed to produce the beneficial results anticipated; while the great mass of the tribe at home were suffered to remain in ignorance. It has, therefore, been nearly abandoned, and will be entirely discontinued as soon as existing arrangements will justify a withdrawal of the boys who are now at such institutions, and all the means and resources at the disposal of the Department be applied to the establishment and maintenance of manual labor and other schools in the Indian country. The advantages will in this way be extended to both sexes, and be more generally diffused among the great body of the tribe.

In every system which has been adopted for promoting the cause of education among the Indians, the Department has fonnd its most efficient and faithful auxiliaries and laborers in the societies of the several Christian denominations, which have sent out missionaries, established schools, and maintained local teachers among the different tribes. Deriving their impulse from principles of philanthropy and religion, and devoting a large amount of their own means to the education, moral elevation and improvement of the tribes, the Department has not hesitated to make them the instruments, to a considerable extent, of applying the funds appropriated by the government for like purposes. Their exertions have thus been encouraged, and a greater degree of economy at the same time secured in the expenditure of the public money. And while the schools and academies under their charge have been seen to flourish, the Department has a sure guaranty in the high and sacred obligations under which they act, for the faithful application of the means assigned them.

The accompanying reports will exhibit the progress which has been made during the past year, the present state and condition of the schools, and the increasing interest which the subject of education is attracting among a very large number of the tribes.

It is regretted that no report has yet been received from the

Cherokees, but they are represented to have appropriated the sum of $35,000 for the establishment of two seminaries, near Talequah—one for males, and the other for females—and to be now engaged in erecting the buildings, which are to be of brick, and in making the other necessary improvements. Besides the neighborhood schools, which are located in the various precincts, the Choctaws have three academies for the instruction of boys, and five seminaries for females; in carrying on and maintaining which they annually expend about $30,000. The manual labor school established among the Osages, which was placed under the care and superintendence of the Catholic society, went into operation on the 1st June last, and promises to be attended with the most beneficial results.

Arrangements were made during the past summer with the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal church, for the establishment of a manual labor school among the Chickasaws, that tribe having appropriated from their own means the sum of $5,000 for the erection of the necessary buildings, and $6,000 annually for carrying on and maintaining the school. Contracts were also entered into—one with the Methodists and the other with the Presbyterians—for the establishment of two manual labor schools at different and convenient points among the Creeks. The sum of $6,000 was appropriated for the buildings and improvements, and $4,000 annually for their support in each case. Provision has likewise been made for a manual labor school among the Quapaws, which will probably be ready to go into operation in the spring, under the superintendence of the Methodist church; and a contract has just been closed with the Catholics for a similar institution among the Miamies, for which they have consented to make an annual appropriation from their annuities of $2,000. These societies, by the terms of the several contracts, are to receive $50 for every scholar which they shall maintain and educate. This is to include boarding, clothing, stationery, medical attendance, and every other necessary expense.

Efforts have been, and will continue to be made, to induce other tribes, having large annuities, to suffer some part of them to be applied to the extension and maintenance of a system which is so essential to their prosperity and happiness.

One of the most important duties devolving on this office, is the proper administration of the law in relation to the granting of licenses to trade with the Indians. Traders necessarily have the means of acquiring much influence over them, and can exercise much power for good or for evil; and hence great care should be taken to license none but persons of proper character, who will deal fairly, and co-operate with the government in its measures for meliorating the condition of the Indians. The importance of the subject, it is feared, has been too much overlooked, and licenses have been granted to many persons who should never have been permitted to go into the Indian country. In order to give the Department an entire supervision over the system, the law requires that when licenses are granted, they shall be forthwith reported to this office for its approval or disapproval; but this has rarely been done in a proper manner, and in many cases not at all. On looking

into the regulations adopted by one of your predecessors, some years since, they were found to be defective, not being sufficiently specific, nor requiring that care and precaution requisite on the part of the agents and sub-agents. New and more perfect regulations were therefore prepared, and recently adopted by you, a copy of which is annexed (marked B.)

All the agents of the Department concur in the opinion, that the law passed at the last session of Congress, adding the punishment of imprisonment to the fine formerly imposed for introducing or disposing of intoxicating liquors in the Indian country, and making Indians competent witnesses in trials for such offences, will be productive of much good. Its effects have already been sensibly felt. But this great evil can never be very materially diminished until there is some legislation on the part of the States adjacent to the Indian country, to prevent the traffic in ardent spirits along their borders; which, in some places, are said to be lined with dram-shops, to which the Indians resort, and whence the pernicious article is taken into the Indian country in a manner which defies detection. These places are the scenes of frequent broils and disturbances, and sometimes of murders, which may some day lead to very serious consequences, involving the tranquility of the frontier, and the lives of our citizens residing on or near it. Not only good morals and the dictates of humanity, but duty towards their frontier population, would seem to call loudly upon the States referred to, for some stringent and effective measures for the suppression of the evil. With the view of calling the attention of the proper authorities of those States to the subject, you addressed them an earnest letter on the 14th of July last, a copy of which is annexed, (marked D,) to which a reply has been received only from the Governor of Arkansas, also annexed, (marked E.) A copy of the regulations issued for carrying the law into effect, (marked C.) is likewise appended.

Provision having been made for that purpose at the last session of Congress, the Department appointed a special agent to visit the Comanche and other wild tribes in Texas. From his reports, it will be seen that the most friendly understanding continues to exist between those Indians and the United States. Nearly all the tribes, parties to the treaty of 1846, were recently assembled in council, when the agent, Maj. Neighbors, distributed among them the valuable presents which were promised by that treaty. During the council they gave renewed assurances of their determination to observe the several stipulations of the treaty, to refrain from committing depredations, and to live in peace and amity with the people and government of the United States.

In my report of last year, I called your attention to the peculiar situation of these Indians, and to the anomalous character of their relations to the general government. Texas, on coming into the Union, expressly reserved the right to, and exclusive jurisdiction over, all the vacant and unappropriated lands lying within her limits. She has accordingly disposed of large tracts, situated in those sections of the State where the Indians have long been accustomed

to hunt, and which they have therefore always considered as belonging to themselves. The purchasers of these tracts have recently been engaged in surveying and marking their boundaries, with a view to the introduction and settlement upon them of a white population. This has been done without first obtaining the consent of the Indians, and, if thus persisted in, will, it is feared, become the means of interrupting those peaceful relations which now so happily exist among these numerous and savage tribes. This subject is one that must necessarily soon commend itself to the attention and serious consideration of the proper authorities.

The unprotected and greatly exposed condition of our fellow-citizens in Oregon, will no doubt attract, as it merits, the attention and early consideration of Congress. The peculiar stipulations under which that territory was so long occupied, have been terminated; but the interests and influences which in the meantime grew up are very far from being removed. Many persons owing allegiance to foreign powers, whose interests and feelings are averse to the extension in that quarter of our rightful authority, are still residing within the acknowledged jurisdiction of the United States. The number of Indians in Oregon has been estimated at about thirty thousand souls. Their knowledge of the relations which they now bear towards the United States, must be extremely limited, whilst their principal trade continues to be carried on with the subjects of foreign governments. The various bands residing in the British possessions, north of the 49th parallel of latitude, and in Upper California, south of the 42d, afford a ready and convenient means of reaching these Indians by persons inimical to the United States, and of exciting among them feelings of dissatisfaction and hostility towards our citizens.

Under these circumstances, the Department, soon after the adjournment of Congress, assumed the responsibility of appointing one of our citizens in Oregon, whose standing and efficiency are well certified, a sub-agent for the various tribes within that territory. He was instructed to visit the different bands, to counsel with and disabuse their minds of any injurious impressions that may have been made upon them, and to endeavor by suitable presents, and by every other proper means within his power, to establish and maintain peaceful and friendly relations between them and the citizens of the United States. No report, however, or other intellegence from this officer has yet been received by the Department.

The reports of the superintendents and agents, exhibit in detail the state of affairs among the various tribes up to this time, and give some indication of their prospects for the future. The strongest feelings by which an Indian in his uncivilized state is actuated, being a passion for war and a desire of revenge for injuries either suffered or fancied, it is a matter of surprise that collisions and bloodshed do not more frequently occur among our more remote tribes, with whom we have but little intercourse, and over whom it is difficult to exercise any control. With the exception of the few cases of difficulty already noticed, however, tranquility has generally prevailed, and continues to prevail among the different

tribes, and between them and our frontier population: and whilst there is much stated in the reports to deplore, in relation to the effects of the use of ardent spirits by the Indians, furnished to them by persons actuated only by a heartless and unhallowed desire of gain, and which greatly embarrasses the government in carrying out the benevolent policy adopted for their moral and social elevation, there is on the other hand many gratifying evidences of a real and substantial improvement in their condition and prospects.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Hon. W. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS.

ACCOMPANYING THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Reports of superintendents, agents, and sub-agents.

No. 20. Report of M. Duval, sub-agent for Seminoles.
No. 21. Report of Wm. P. Angel, sub-agent for New York Indians.
No. 22. Report of Robt. S. Neighbors, special Indian agent, Texas.
No. 23. Report of Robt. S. Neighbors, special Indian agent, Texas.
No. 24. Report of Robt. S. Neighbors, special Indian agent, Texas.
No. 25. Report of Robt. S. Neighbors, special Indian agent, Texas.

School and farm reports.

No. 26. Report of F. H. Cumming.—Ottowas of Micigan.
No. 27. Report of P. Dougherty.—Ottowas of Michigan.
No. 28. Report of George N. Smith.—Ottowas of Michigan.
No. 29. Report of P. P. Lefevre.—Ottowas and Chippewas of Michigan.
No. 30. Report of L. Slater.—Ottowas of Michigan.
No. 31. Report of W. H. Brockway.—Ottowas and Chippewas of Michigan.
No. 32. Report of A. Bingham.—Chippewas of Michigan.
No. 33. Report of S. Hall.—Chippewas of Mississippi.
No. 34. Report of L. H. Wheeler.—Chippewas of Mississippi.
No. 35. Report of Thomas H. Williamson.—Sioux.
No. 36. Report of R. Hopkins.—Sioux.
No. 37. Report of S. R. Riggs.—Sioux.
No. 38. Report of R. Hopkins and A. G. Huggins.—Sioux.
No. 39. Report of J. D. Blanchard.—Delawares.
No. 40. Report of Francis Barker.—Shawnees.
No. 41. Report of Edward McKinney.—Ottoes and Omahas.
No. 42. Report of S. Allis.—Pawnees.
No. 43. Report of David Lowry.—Winnebagoes.
No. 44. Report of Jonathan Meeker.—Ottowas, west.
No. 45. Report of E. McCoy.—Pottowatomies.
No. 46. Report of B. M. Adams.—Weas.
No. 47. Report of J. F. L. Verreydt.—Pottowatomies.
No. 48. Report of S. M. Irvin and W. Hamilton.—Sacs and Iowas.
No. 49. Report of S. Lyda.—Iowa farmer.
No. 50. Report of J. W. Forman.—Sac and Fox farmer.
No. 51. Report of Samuel M. Rutherford.—Schools in western territory.

APPENDIX.

A.

War Department,
Office Indian Affairs, August 30, 1847.

Sir: In placing in your hands for distribution to the several agents for payment to the different tribes of Indians of your superintendency, the annuities due to them for the present year, it becomes necessary to call your attention and that of the agents to the 3d section of an act of Congress approved the 3d of March last, which provides "that all annuities or other moneys, and all goods stipulated by treaty to be paid or furnished to any Indian tribe, shall, at the discretion of the President or Secretary of War, instead of being paid over to the chiefs, or such persons as they shall designate, be divided and paid over to heads of families and other individuals entitled to participate therein; or with the consent of the tribe, be applied to such purposes as will best promote the happiness and prosperity of the members thereof, under such regulations as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of War, not inconsistent with existing treaty stipulation. And no such annuities, or moneys or goods, shall be paid or distributed to the Indians while they are under the influence of any description of intoxicating liquor, nor while there are good and sufficient reasons for the officers and agents, whose duty it may be to make such payments or distribution, for believing that there is any species of intoxicating liquor within convenient reach of the Indians; nor until the chiefs and head-men of the tribe shall have pledged themselves to use all their influence, and to make all proper exertions, to prevent the introduction and sale of such liquor in their country; and all executory contracts made and entered into by any Indian for the payment of money or goods, shall be deemed to be null and void, and of no binding effect whatsoever." These provisions are wise and beneficent, and, if properly carried out according to their spirit and intent, must be productive of the greatest good to those of our Indian tribes to whom annuities are payable. It is probably one of the most salutary laws affecting our Indian relations that has ever been passed. Annuities, especially when large, instead of being the source of benefit and the means of moral and social improvement of the Indians, have but too generally been productive of much evil among them. Instead of being used to procure the necessaries and comforts of life, and to multiply the means and facilities of obtaining a certain and comfortable subsistence, they have too often proved only the fruitful source of bad habits, profligacy, and vice, contributing to the Indian's love of indolence and natural disinclination to anything like continuous and profitable labor.

Under the law, as it heretofore stood, the annuities were payable to the chiefs only, or to such persons as they might designate. When so paid, it was too often the case that the upright and well-disposed reaped little or no benefit from them whatever, the idle and profligate recklessly incurring large debts on the faith of them, which, through improper influences, the chiefs would be induced to recognise and sanction as national and binding on the whole tribe, and ordered to be paid out of their annuities, thus robbing the better class to make good the improvidence of the worse, and producing an oppressive inequality among the individuals of the tribes, discouragement to those who would have made a beneficial use of their just share, and general discontent and dissatisfaction. When the money is paid to the chiefs, and the national credit is based upon their authority, the benefits of the funds of the nation too often enure principally to themselves and their special retainers and friends, and the mass of the tribe get little or nothing, and what they do get, is at a sacrifice of a proper personal independence. The power of the chiefs to make such divisions of the funds as they choose, enables them to control the sentiment and to overawe the individuals of the tribe generally, thus converting what was intended to be a national blessing into a national curse. But when each individual goes to the pay-table and gets his due proportion, it produces a just idea of individual right, and each knows exactly what he has to rely upon, and that beyond it the support and maintenance of himself and family depend upon his own exertions.

The operation of the system of making the payments to the chiefs was also liable to be, and in some cases was, attended with pernicious effects in regard to them. It left the way open, if it did not offer, inducements to their being bribed to allow unjust and unfounded claims against the tribe; and, through the influence and exertions of persons preferring such claims, led to their being depressed or elevated in standing and influence with the tribe, according to their dispositions to oppose such demands, or their willingness to allow them; thus giving rise to dissensions and heart-burnings fatal to peace and harmony among themselves and the tribe.

The full power given to the Department by the law will enable it to check, to a great extent, if not entirely to cure these evils, wherever they exist. Individual payments will put a stop especially to the reckless running into debt to which many of the Indians have become so prone, and the encouragement held out for them to do so, in the expectation that the chiefs can be prevailed on to order payment out of the general annuities.

The power conferred by the law to withhold the annuities when the Indians are under the influence of intoxicating drink, or while there is any liquor within their convenient reach, or when they do not manifest a proper disposition to co-operate with the authorities of the government in their efforts to put a stop to the use of ardent spirits and the nefarious traffic in them in the Indian country, may be made the effective means, to a great extent, of rooting out this great and prevalent evil. The attention of the agents and sub-agents will be called particularly to this subject, and they are re-

quired to use the power thus given by the law in the most eff manner for the accomplishment of this great object.

Since the passage of the law, letters have been received by the President and this Department from some of the traders and alleged creditors of the Indians against *per capita* payments, which they represent as an innovation upon past usages, and a consequent invasion of their vested rights. But notwithstanding the law heretofore required the annuities to be paid to the chiefs, or to such persons only as they might designate, they have in nearly all cases, for several years past, been induced by their own people to consent to *per capita* payments to the individuals of the tribe, which has accordingly been done, as is shown by the returns in the office of the Second Auditor. The law of the 3d of March is, therefore, no departure from the custom which has prevailed for some years, nor is it any violation of the rights of those who may have claims against the Indians. The money will be paid over to the families and individuals of the different tribes, and they will be free to apply it towards the discharge of their just and acknowledged liabilities.

As the responsible guardian of the interest and welfare of the Indians, and in pursuance of the discretionary power vested in him by the law, the President therefore directs that hereafter all annuities and other money and goods due to the Indians be paid and distributed to heads of families, and to individuals without families entitled to participate therein, unless a different mode of payment or distribution is expressly required by treaty stipulation; in which case, the views of the tribe in general council will be taken; and if the mode prescribed by treaty be insisted on, after a full explanation and due consideration, it will be adopted.

It is alleged by the writers of the letters referred to that the provision of the law declaring null and void executory contracts with the Indians, if applied to past transactions, will be *ex post facto*. As no such question, however, is raised by enjoining *per capita* payments which, as stated, is only in accordance with the course pursued in your superintendency for several years past, it is unnecessary to inquire how far the Indians are capable of making contracts with individuals of a legal and binding nature, being considered in the light of wards under the guardianship of the government. It is certain that no such contracts are provided for, either by law or regulations; are therefore without legal authority, and that they could not be enforced against the Indians, as there are no civil courts or remedies in the Indian country. Before they could be entitled to any consideration from the Department, on moral or equitable principles, they should be shown to have been made under justifiable circumstances, and for a fair and just consideration. Contracts, or other obligations for the payment of money, are said to exist between traders and alleged creditors, and the Pottowatomies and one or two other tribes, which would be carried out, if the government would pay the money to the chiefs. But, as the law was passed, to cure the evils which have resulted from this mode of payment, the President would not be justified in permitting this to

be done, unless fully satisfied that the contracts were made under such circumstances and for such consideration as entitled them to be respected, and as would justify a departure from the policy of the law. This could only be ascertained by the claims on account of which such contracts or obligations were granted being submitted to this Department, with all the facts and circumstances, for investigation and for the consideration of the President.

There is no disposition on the part of the government to interfere with or to throw any obstacle in the way of the payment by the Indians of their just debts, either individual or national. The payment of their annuities to them individually will enable them to discharge those of the former class; and on its being ascertained by a full and fair investigation by the Department, that if any of the tribes owe any, which should justly be considered of the latter class, and which were justified by the circumstances and objects under and for which they were created, no objection will be made to the Indians setting apart such portions of their annuities for their payment as can, properly and consistently with their individual wants and necessities, be spared for that purpose. But all such claims must be presented prior to the first of April next, in order that they may be investigated, and such arrangements made in regard to their payment as may appear to be requisite and proper, prior to the annuity payments next year; and you will please cause all claimants to be notified accordingly. It is a leading object of the Department to have all old transactions with the Indians finally arranged and closed, and that hereafter all intercourse and trade with them may be regulated and conducted according to simple and well defined principles, by which all parties may clearly understand their relative positions, duties, and rights. It must be distinctly understood, however, that hereafter no national debts will be paid or in any manner recognized by the government, unless justified by paramount necessity, and the facts and circumstances rendering their creation necessary be first communicated to the Department, and its assent obtained before any liability whatever is incurred.

It is not intended by the directions herein contained, to debar the Indians from setting apart such portions of their annuities as they may see proper for purely charitable purposes, or for such national objects as may be calculated to improve their condition and to advance their general welfare—such as schools, and the encouragement of agriculture and the mechanic arts, &c. On the contrary, they should be encouraged and stimulated to make such a disposition of a portion of the ample income which they, in most cases, enjoy; as money so applied will result in national and individual benefit, and lessen the means of evil-disposed individuals to indulge in vicious propensities, and render it neccessary for all to adopt more industrious habits in order to obtain the necessaries and comforts of life.

Nor are these directions intended to apply to the $50,000 payable to the Pottowatomies under the 5th article of the treaty of June, 1846, which is set apart for certain specific purposes. It is represented that, at the making of the treaty, there was an understand-

ing as to the manner in which this sum should be paid, and you are authorized to cause it to be paid accordingly.

The case of Joseph Roubideaux, to which you have specially called the attention of the Department, the President is willing to make an exception, in consideration of your having satisfied yourself last year at the annuity payment of the Iowas and the Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri, that his trade with those Indians had for years been fair and liberal; that the Indians admitted, and you were convinced that his claims were just, and that you consented to their giving their written obligations for paying him in three instalments, one of which was paid last year, and promised your influence in having the other two paid this and the next year. Under these circumstances, which constitutes Mr. Roubideaux's case a special one, you are authorized to permit this arrangement to be carried into effect, if still desired by the Indians.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Supt. of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

B.

REGULATIONS

CONCERNING THE GRANTING OF LICENSES TO TRADE WITH THE INDIANS.

1st. Licenses to trade with the Indians will be granted only to citizens of the United States, of unexceptionable character, and who are fit persons to be in the Indian country. They will not be granted to any person who may previously have had a license, which was revoked, or the forfeiture of whose bonds was decreed, in consequence of the violation of any of the laws or regulations, or of being an improper person to be in the Indian country.

2d. Licenses will not permit the introduction or sale, in the Indian country, of any description of any intoxicating liquor, any uniform clothing, other than that of the United States, nor any medals, flags, arm bands, or other ornaments of dress bearing the figures, emblems, or devices of any foreign power; nor will they authorize any trade with a tribe or tribes with which intercourse may have been prohibited by the President of the United States.

3d. The applications for licenses must be made in writing, to the proper agent or sub-agent; or in case of their absence or inability to act, to the superintendent of the district in which the tribe or tribes may be located, with which the license to trade is desired.

4th. The application must set forth the name and residence of the person or persons desiring the license; and if a firm, the style

and designation thereof; the place or places where it is proposed to carry on the trade; the amount of capital to be employed at each place, and the names and capacities of the agents, clerks, and other persons it is proposed to employ therein, or in connexion therewith. If such persons be not known to the officer to whom the application is made, satisfactory testimonials of unexceptionable character and fitness to be in the Indian country must accompany the application.

5th. If, after the license shall have been granted, it be desired to employ other persons than those named therein, either to fill vacancies or otherwise, their names, the capacity in which it is proposed to employ them, and if not known, satisfactory testimonials, as required in the preceding paragraph, must first be furnished to the agent, sub-agent, or superintendent, as the case may be, and his permission in writing obtained therefor. On such permission being given, the fact will immediately be reported to the Department, with the names and capacities of all such persons, and the names and capacities of those in whose places any of them are to be employed. A separate list of persons, other than citizens of the United States, permitted by law to be employed by traders in the Indian country, such as "foreign boatmen and interpreters," will be transmitted annually on the 30th September, for the previous year, to the Commissioner of Indian Affaias.

6th. All licenses will be in the form hereto annexed, and will embrace the same particulars required by the first sentence of paragraph four, to be stated in the application. No trade will be permitted with any other tribe or tribes, or at any other place or places, than those specified in the license.

7th. When the agent, sub-agent, or superintendent shall have determined to grant a license, the same, duly executed, will, before being delivered, be transmitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs "for his approval or disapproval," as required by the 2d section of the act of June 30, 1834, "to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes," &c., and will be accompanied by the application and the testimonials in favor of the persons to be employed. In case any of those persons are so far favorably known to the agent, sub-agent, or superintendent, that he does not consider testimonials in their favor necessary, they may be dispensed with, by his endorsing on the application accordingly, prior to its transmission with the license.

8th. The bond required by law to be given by the person or persons to whom a license may be granted, that they "will faithfully observe all the laws and regulations made for the government of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and in no respect violate the same," will be according to the annexed form. Duly executed, and approved by the person issuing the license, who will also certify to the sufficiency of the sureties, it will be transmitted, with the license and other papers, to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

9th. No license will be granted for a longer period than one year; but, at the end of that time, if the agent, sub-agent, or superintend-

ent be satisfied that the trade has been conducted properly, and that the laws and regulations of the Department, and the terms of the license, were duly observed, new licenses may be granted without the formality required by the fourth paragraph of these regulations, a new bond being given and transmitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, as provided for in paragraph eighth.

10th. The principals of all trading establishments will be held responsible for the conduct and acts of the persons in their employ in the Indian country; and an infraction of any of the terms or conditions of a license, or any of the laws or regulations, by such persons, will be considered good and sufficient cause for revoking the license, in the same manner as if committed by the principals themselves.

11th. Before new or additional goods are carried into the Indian country for the purpose of trade, notice thereof shall be given to the proper agent or sub-agent; and a copy of the invoices thereof, together with a list of the old goods on hand at the time, and their value, shall be furnished the said agent or sub-agent, under oath, or otherwise satisfactorily verified, so that the Department may, at different periods, be advised of the quantity and description of goods on hand at any trading establishment.

12th. Any license may be revoked by the proper superintendent whenever, in his opinion, the person or persons licensed, or any of those in his or their employ, "shall have transgressed any of the laws or regulations made for the government of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, or that it would be improper to permit them to remain in the Indian country." Any infraction of the laws or regulations, or of any of the terms and conditions of a license, with all the circumstances connected therewith, and all improper conduct on the part of traders, or any person in their employ in the Indian country, will be reported without delay to the superintendent of the district within which the same shall have occurred, in order that he may take into consideration the propriety of revoking the license. All cases of licenses refused or revoked, with all the facts and circumstances, will be promptly reported to the Department, a right of appeal to which, in such cases, is reserved to those feeling themselves aggrieved.

W. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *November* 9, 1847.

Form of licenses.

Be it known that [*name or names in full and place of residence of each; and if a firm, add,* partners trading under the name and firm of ——, *giving the style or designation of the firm,*] having filed his [*their*] application before me for a license to trade with the [*name of the tribe*] tribe of Indians, at the following named place [*places*] within the boundaries of the country occupied by the

said tribe, viz : [*name, if any, and specific locality of place or places,*] and having executed and filed with me a bond in the penal sum of [*amount of bond*] dollars, with [*name sureties*] as sureties, conditioned as required by law, for the faithful observance of all the laws and regulations provided for the government of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism, humanity, and correct business habits of the said applicant [*applicants*], and being satisfied that he [*they*] is a citizen [*are citizens*] of the United States, as required by law, he is [*they are*] hereby authorized to carry on the business of trading with the said [*name of tribe*] tribe of Indians at the above named place [*any one or all of the above named places*] for the term of one year from the date hereof, and to keep in his [*their*] employ thereat the following named persons, or any of them, in the capacities affixed to their names respectively, viz: [*names and capacities of employees,*] all of which persons I am satisfied from my own knowledge, or from the testimonials which have been placed in my hands, sustain a fair character, and are fit to be in the Indian country.

Given under my hand and seal this —— day of ——, eighteen hundred and ——.

[*Signature, official title, and seal.*]

Form of bond.

Know all men by these presents: That we [*name in full of the person or persons licensed and of their sureties, together with the place or places of residence of each, as in the license,*] are held and firmly bound unto the United States of America in the sum of dollars, lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, and each of us, our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents; sealed with our seals, and dated this day of , one thousand eight hundred and forty .

The condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas [*name and title of agent, sub-agent, superintendent, or acting superintendent,*] hath granted to the said [*name of person or persons licensed as above*] a license, dated [*date of license,*] to trade for one year with the [*name of tribe*] tribe of Indians, at the following described place [*places*] within the boundaries of the country occupied by the said tribe, viz: [*name, if any, and designation of locality of the place or places.*]

Now, if the said [*name of the person or persons licensed,*] so licensed, shall faithfully conform to, and observe all the laws and regulations made, or which shall be made, "for the government of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and in no respect violate the same," and shall trade at the aforesaid place [*places*] and no other, and shall in all respects act conformably with the license

granted to him [*them*,] then this obligation to be void, else to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed and sealed in presence of

[SEAL.]
[SEAL.]
[SEAL.]

Circular to superintendents, agents, and sub-agents.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, November 17, 1847.

SIR: In transmitting for your information and future guidance the enclosed regulations concerning the granting of licenses to trade with the Indians, I desire to call your attention at the same time and in connexion therewith, to the 13th, 14th, and latter clause of the 15th sections of the "Act to regulate trade and intercourse with Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers," approved 30th of June, 1834; and likewise to the 21st and 22d paragraphs of Revised Regulations, No. IV., adopted May 13, 1837, copies of which are doubtless in your possession, or if not, can be readily obtained on application to the proper superintendent, or to this office.

Recent occurrences in the Indian country, the peace of the frontier, and the unwarrantable interference of certain white persons with the administration of the affairs of this Department, especially at some of the late payments, call for the utmost vigilance on the part of the officers of the government, and a prompt and rigorous enforcement of these just and salutary provisions of law.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

C.

REGULATIONS.

The attention of all the officers and agents of the government in the Indian country, and of all persons residing or entering therein, under license or permission, is called to the 20th and 21st sections of the act of June 30th, 1834, and to the 2d section of an act, approved the 3d of March, ultimo, the great object of which is to save our Indian population from the ruinous effects of the use of intoxicating liquors.

These laws impose upon commanding officers of military posts,

and superintendents of Indian affairs, agents, and sub-agents, the following duties:

1st. To cause promptly to be prosecuted, any and all persons guilty of giving, or in any way disposing of spirituous liquor or wine to an Indian, in the Indian country, or of introducing, or attempting to introduce the same therein; such persons, in the one case, being liable to a fine of five hundred dollars and imprisonment for two years; and, in the other, to a fine of three hundred dollars and imprisonment for one year.

2d. To search for any spirituous liquor or wine which there is reason to believe has been, or is about being introduced into the Indian country, which is not intended as a part of the military supplies authorized by this Department, and, if found, to destroy it; and to seize upon the property of the person guilty of the offence, with which the same may be found, and deliver it over to the proper officer, to be proceeded against by libel in the proper court; such property being liable to forfeiture, one half to the use of the informer, and the other to that of the United States. It is also the duty of any person, in any way in the employment of the government—and the same may be done by any Indian—to destroy any spirituous liquor or wine found in the Indian country.

3d. If the person guilty of introducing, or of attempting to introduce, spirituous liquor or wine into the Indian country, be a trader, it is the duty of the proper superintendent, agent or sub-agent immediately to revoke his license and to put his bond in suit.

4th. To destroy any distillery in the Indian country for the manufacture of ardent spirits, and to cause to be promptly prosecuted any person or persons who may erect or carry on such distillery, in order to recover the fine of one thousand dollars prescribed for such offence.

It is also provided that in all prosecutions for the offences mentioned in the first of the foregoing heads, Indians shall be competent witnesses.

All military officers in the Indian country, and the superintendents, agents, and sub-agents of the Indian Department, are required and enjoined to be vigilant and active in the execution of the duties imposed upon them by these laws, which are appended hereto for their more particular information as to the nature and extent of their respective duties; and it is expected that all other persons in the employment of the government, or who are licensed or permitted to be in the Indian country, will, on every occasion, aid those officers and agents in the most effectual manner in their power.

Any omission on the part of the officers of, and persons employed in the Indian Department, particularly, or on the part of those licensed or permitted to be in the Indian country, to do all that can justly and fairly be done to put an end to the infamous traffic with the Indians, in or through intoxicating liquors, will be regarded as good cause for their removal in the one case, or in the other for the revocation of their licenses or permits.

Now that Indians are made competent witnesses in our courts, for

the purpose of further enabling the government to destroy an evil which has been so destructive of their best interests and happiness, it is expected that the chiefs and others, who desire the welfare and prosperity of their people, will coöperate with the agents of the government in arresting this great source of mischief to the Indian race. Those who fail to do so by every proper means in their power cannot be regarded as desiring or caring for either.

By the 3d section of the act of the 3d ultimo, it is provided that "no annuities, or moneys, or goods, shall be paid or distributed to the Indians while they are under the influence of any description of intoxicating liquor; nor while there are good and sufficient reasons for the officers or agents, whose duty it may be to make such payments or distribution, for believing that there is any species of intoxicating liquor within convenient reach of the Indians; nor until the chief and head-men of the tribe shall have pledged themselves to use all their influence, and to make all proper exertions to prevent the introduction and sale of such liquor in their country."

W. L. MARCY.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *April* 13, 1847.

"AN ACT to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers," approved June 30th, 1834.

"SECTION 20. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person shall sell, exchange, or give, barter, or dispose of any spirituous liquor or wine to an Indian, (in the Indian country,) such person shall forfeit and pay the sum of five hundred dollars; and if any person shall introduce, or attempt to introduce, any spirituous liquor or wine into the Indian country, except such supplies as shall be necessary for the officers of the United States and troops of the service, under the direction of the War Department, such person shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding three hundred dollars; and if any superintendent of Indian affairs, Indian agent, or sub-agent, or commanding officer of a military post, has reason to suspect, or is informed, that any white person or Indian is about to introduce, or has introduced, any spirituous liquor or wine into the Indian country, in violation of the provisions of this section, it shall be lawful for such superintendent, Indian agent, or sub-agent, or military officer, agreeably to such regulations as may be established by the President of the United States, to cause the boats, stores, packages, and places of deposite of such person to be searched, and if any such spirituous liquor or wine is found, the goods, boats, packages, and peltries of such persons shall be seized and delivered to the proper officer, and shall be proceeded against by libel in the proper court, and forfeited, one half to the use of the informer, and the other half to the use of the United States; and if such person is a trader, his license shall be revoked and his bond put in suit. And it shall moreover be lawful for any person in the service of the United States, or for any Indian, to take and destroy any ardent

spirits or wine found in the Indian country, excepting military supplies as mentioned in this section.

"SECTION 21. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person whatever, shall, within the limits of the Indian country, set up or continue any distillery for manufacturing ardent spirits, he shall forfeit and pay a penalty of one thousand dollars; and it shall be the duty of the superintendent of Indian affairs, Indian agent, or sub-agent, within the limits of whose agency the same shall be set up or continued, forthwith to destroy and break up the same; and it shall be lawful to employ the military force of the United States in executing that duty."

"AN ACT to amend an act entitled 'An act to provide for the better organization of the Department of Indian Affairs,' and an act entitled 'An act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers,'" approved March 3d, 1847.

"SECTION 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the twentieth section of the 'act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers,' approved June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and thirty-four, be, and the same is hereby so amended, that, in addition to the fines thereby imposed, any person who shall sell, exchange or barter, give, or dispose of, any spirituous liquor or wine to an Indian, in the Indian country, or who shall introduce, or attempt to introduce, any spirituous liquor or wine into the Indian country, except such supplies as may be necessary for the officers of the United States and the troops of the service, under the direction of the War Department, such person, on conviction thereof before the proper district court of the United States, shall, in the former case, be subject to imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years, and in the latter case not exceeding one year, as shall be prescribed by the court, according to the extent and criminality of the offence. And in all prosecutions arising under this section, and under the twentieth section of the act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers, approved June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and thirty-four, to which this is an amendment, Indians shall be competent witnesses."

D.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *July* 14, 1847.

SIR: I would respectfully, but earnestly, invoke the aid of the executive and other authorities of Missouri, Arkansas and Iowa, in the efforts which this Department is now making, to suppress the traffic with the Indians in ardent spirits. The most stringent laws have been passed by Congress for this purpose, but as these

are operative only in the Indian country, they fail to reach the most prolific source of this great evil, which is within the limits of the States adjoining our Indian territory.

It would be a useless task to depict to you the extent of the injuries which this instrument of evil has inflicted upon the red race of this continent. They are well known to you in common with the whole country. There can be no doubt that to it more than to any other agency, is to be attributed the rapid decline of that race in morals as well as numbers.

While the Indians remained in the States, surrounded by and intermixed with a vicious white population, who preyed upon them by corrupting their morals and taking advantage of their weaknesses, there was but little, if any, chance to interpose with any effect to shield them from the debasing influence of ardent spirits; but, now that they have been removed entirely beyond our white settlements, and no one is permitted to enter their country without permission from the proper authorities of the United States, the hope is entertained that, with the co-operation of the States along whose borders they are located, this evil may be materially checked, if not entirely overcome.

I have the honor to transmit herewith, a copy of regulations issued a short time since, to which are appended the existing provisions of laws for preventing the introduction of ardent spirits and the traffic in them in the Indian country. These laws give the Department and its agents such control as will enable it, to a great extent, to prevent intoxicating liquors being taken into the Indian country for purposes of traffic, either by licensed traders or others. But a comparatively small part of the injury suffered by the Indians has, however, arisen from the use of spirits introduced in this way. The risk is too great to encounter it to any considerable extent. The principal mischief is done by and through the dram-shops and traders in the article along the lines between the States and the Indian country. Indians cross the line and visit those shops, where they are permitted to indulge freely so long as they have the means of paying. They frequently awake to consciousness only to find that they have been plundered of their money, their rifles, their blankets, and everything of value they brought with them, which they are told they have traded for whiskey, or gambled away while in a state of intoxication. Not satisfied with such opportunities of selling liquor to the poor Indian, the traders in it within the State lines send emissaries, who are generally corrupted Indians of both sexes, with it in such quantities as they can easily carry and conceal, who barter it away to the Indians. In all cases the Indian is wronged, cheated, robbed; and the consequence is, the engendering of a feeling of unfriendliness, if not of revenge, against the white man for these great injuries. Whatever insecurity there may be for our frontier population, it is mainly, if not entirely caused in this manner. It is, therefore, a high and imperative duty, both of the General and State governments, not only to the Indians, but also to our own citizens, to make every effort to break up this nefarious traffic along the State lines. Without the co-operation of the State

authorities, this can never be done. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that you present the subject to the notice of the legislature of your State, and recommend the enactment of such laws as, in your judgment, will best tend to effect the great and important end in view.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. MARCY.

His Excellency, J. EDWARDS,
Goveernor of Missouri, Jefferson City, Mo.
" " T. D. DREW,
Governor of Arkansas, Little Rock, Ark.
" " ——, *Governor of Iowa, Burlington, Iowa.*

E.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
Little Rock, July 28, 1847.

SIR: Yours of the 14th instant is just at hand, urging the necessity of co-operation on the part of the State governments on the Indian border with that of the General Government, for the suppression of the sale of ardent spirits to the Indians on the frontier, and requesting the executive to bring the subject to the notice of the legislature.

Notwitstanding my efforts had been used to this end by a special message to the general assembly of this State in 1844, without any sensible effect, be assured, sir, that it will still be my purpose, by drawing to it the attention of the next legislature, to prepare the way, by a gradual course, in the enactment of fit and proper laws for its suppression.

In our community it is found difficult to pass stringent enactments of this kind, and more difficult to enforce them, in advance of the establishment of public opinion on the side of law and order. Mild and salutary laws—going but half way in the accomplishment of an object like this—will doubtless succeed. This much will go to strengthen public opinion, which, in the end, will itself call for the most stringent prohibitory enactments, and afford a guaranty of their execution.

The facilities for evading the force of law about the Indian line are too well understood by corrupt men to hope that this great evil is to meet with a speedy and successful remedy.

In the district court of the United States, while sitting here for the trial of offences, the subject of jurisdiction appears to be involved in almost every case I have witnessed, and new points are continually arising, notwithstanding a prior settlement of almost similar cases, presenting, perhaps, but a shadow of difference—such as not to be perceptible to the uninformed. It is impossible to anticipate these apparently small difficulties, which, with the causes I

have adverted to, may possibly delay the extinguishment of the evils complained of.

Would it not materially aid those engaged in the execution of the laws now in force, and such as may be enacted by the States on the Indian border, to cause to be published such portions of the intercourse law as are pertinent, accompanied by settled points of jurisdiction, in many of the newspapers on the frontier for a considerable time, that every reading man may have a chance to familiarize himself with the law—that it may become a topic, out of which much good may grow from free discussion, in the way of establishing in the community that state of public opinion to which I have alluded, and which is believed to be so essential to success.

With sentiments of respect, I am yours, &c.,

THOS. S. DREW.

Hon. Wm. L. Marcy,
Secretary of War.

F.

Sub-Indian Agency, Green Bay,
December 23, 1846.

Most Excellent Sir: In obedience to your instructions, dated the 3d September last, covering those of the Hon. Mr. Medill, of the 18th August last, directing the sub-Indian agent, at Green Bay, to carry into effect certain provisions of an act of Congress, approved 6th of August, 1846, entitled an act to repeal "An act for the relief of the Stockbridge Indians, in the Territory of Wisconsin, approved March 3d, 1843, and for other purposes," I proceeded, on the 6th day of September last, as commissioner for that purpose, to Stockbridge, the place of residence of these Indians, and convened them in council.

The instructions of your excellency, with those of the Hon. Mr. Medill, and the act of Congress of 6th August last, were read and explained to them. After which, a "book of enrolment" was opened for the entry of "the names of all such person of the tribe as should desire to become and remain citizens of the United States," and all such invited to come forward and enter their names.

After some deliberation, those of the Stockbridges, usually denominated "the citizen party," intimated, through one of their leading men, that it was doubtful whether they would enrol their names, giving an opinion that they were already "citizens of the United States," and that no further proceedings now could strengthen their title to that prerogative.

Willing to afford them time for due consideration, I informed them that the law required the commissioner to keep the book open for the term of three months, "within which time it shall be the duty of all desiring citizenship to come forward in person and make their application;" that upon the expiration of that time,

which would be on the 16th day of December then ensuing, the *book would be closed*. I further informed them that the book would be kept at the office of the sub-agent of Indian affairs at this place, (Green Bay,) and accessible at all times, during the three months, to any person of the Stockbridges who might wish to apply for citizenship and enrolment of his or her name.

Agreeably thereto, the book was so kept open the full time of three months. On the 16th day of December instant, I again repaired to Stockbridge, and assembled the tribe, informed them that the three months was about expiring, and invited such of them, if any there were, as "wished to become and remain citizens of the United States," to come forward and make their applications. None such appeared, or made application for citizenship, and the book was closed.

Accompanying this report is a paper marked A. which was handed to me by Mr. *John Chick*, one of the Stockbridges, with a request that I would forward it to the War Department with my report.

About the 1st of December instant, the *Rev. Cutting Marsh*, a respectable Presbyterian clergyman, and for many years past a missionary (of the American board of foreign missions) to the Stockbridges, called at this office with a view specially to confer with me on the subject-matter of the act of Congress of August 6th, 1846, and to ask me to embody in my report, (when it should be made,) and present to the War Department, his views in relation thereto.

Considering that his long residence among that people, and his unblameability of character entitled his opinions, and especially his statements of facts, to no ordinary weight, and being unwilling to incur the risk of mis-stating either his opinions or evidence, I requested him to reduce them to writing. He has done so, and they are herewith submitted in the paper marked B. The only part of his paper that needs any explanation from me, is that part in which he speaks of the north part and the south part of the reservation, and the anticipated exchange of lands, and removal of individuals from one part to the other. The explanation is, that the *Indian party*, so called, have arranged the thing in advance so as to take the *north* part of the reservation themselves, and leave the *south* part to the *citizen party;* as they now live promiscuously throughout the reservation, they would require removals both ways.

Having proceeded thus far, and none of them having made application for citizenship, there appeared to me but one class of persons to be recognized among them, so far as the act of 6th August, 1846, is concerned, to wit: Indians. At least, the proceeding to enrol applicants for citizenship had made no division of the tribe. I doubt not, however, that the question being reversed, and such as wished to become and remain Indians, being invited to enrol, a separation of the parties would at once be produced. I did not, however, feel authorized to make this test under the act, or without further instructions.

There are some difficulties of rather a serious character in the way of carrying this act into effect; they are alluded to by the Rev. Mr. Marsh. The principal one appears to be, that the reservation has been parcelled out, surveyed into lots with metes and bounds, and divided among the Stockbridges, under the act of 1843; that many of the lots so surveyed, and set apart to individuals, have been sold in a most formal manner to sundry innocent purchasers. It would be impossible to divide the reservation into *two districts*, as contemplated by the act of August 6, 1846, without disregarding entirely the proceedings already had under the act of 1843.

There is a lamentably bad state of feeling between the two parties—to such a degree as forbids all hope of any amicable arrangement between them; the government will then probably be under the necessity of interfering in some way.

I respectfully submit this report to your excellency, and ask for further instructions.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS,
Sub-Indian Agent.

To his Excellency, HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Madison, W. T.

Postscript.—I am this moment waited on by one of the "Indian party" of the Stockbridges, as a special messenger, with a complaint that the authorities under the laws of Wisconsin, in their township government in Stockbridge, are enforcing the collection of taxes of the Indians, as heretofore, under the act of 1843.

They wish to be informed if there is no way of stopping the proceeding. They are advised by good lawyers that it is illegal, which is clearly my own opinion; and I have so informed their messenger. At the same time, I know of no power that can be exercised, by the sub-Indian agent, to arrest the proceeding.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS,
Sub-Indian Agent.

STOCKBRIDGE, W. T., *November* 20, 1846.

The undersigned committee, by request of a great portion of the male inhabitants of the town, formerly of the Stockbridge tribe of Indians, would respectfully state to you, that they are citizens of the United States, and that their lands have been divided according to law, and in accordance with the fundamental law of the Stockbridge nation; and that they see no necessity or propriety of troubling the government of the United States, or its agency, of making a second application for citizenship, which have already been granted to them, and are recognized as such in courts of records; and furthermore, are recognized as such by the opinions of three of the

ablest and most learned counsels of the Territory. Now, sir, considering all these circumstances, we see no necessity of making further movement about the matter—that we are well satisfied to rest under the operation of the act of 1843.

In regard to their money matters, they would respectfully state that the Stockbridge people were secured by the said act of 1843, as it can be seen, if it were properly noticed, in the last section of the act—that they shall receive all their moneys due them from the United States as though the act had never been passed.

Notwithstanding some portion of the moneys to which they are justly entitled have been withheld for some years back, while they remained as a tribe or nation of Indians, and since they became citizens of the United States, they still strongly hope that the officers of the government will do them justice, by causing to be paid over to all the Stockbridge people residing in Wisconsin, all the moneys due them from the United States; and also to have the same, when ready for disbursement, to be placed in the hands of the Indian agent, with instructions to distribute it among said people in the same manner as their lands have been disposed, and not to have the officers withhold it as a penalty for their becoming citizens.

We cannot yet believe that it is the intention of the officers of the general government to wrong us, as it were, with their eyes open.

We subscribe ourselves as yours, most respectfully,

JOHN W. ABRAMS,
DANIEL DAVID,
JOSEPH L. CHICKS,
JOHN N. CHICKS,
TIMOTHY JOURDAN,
Committee.

To A. G. Ellis, *U. S. Sub-Indian Agent.*

Sub-Indian Agency, Green Bay,
January 14, 1847.

Most Excellent Sir: On the 23d of December ultimo, I had the honor to submit to your excellency a report of my doings under the act of Congress of the 6th of August, 1846, "to repeal an act entitled an act for the relief of the Stockbridge Indians," &c.

Soon after the 16th December last, when I closed the "book of enrolment," (which had been kept open for the three months, as required by the law,) the "sachem" of this tribe, Mr. Austin Quinney, called on me to declare the tract occupied by them, which had been their reservation previous to the passage of the act for their relief, approved March 3d, 1843, *Indian country*, and to notify the white inhabitants to leave the boundaries of the same. This request was made by him on the grounds that no person of the tribe having *applied for citizenship* while the book of enrolment was kept open, the whole tribe was to be regarded as Indians, and, of course,

the reservation as Indian country. I stated to the "sachem" that I did not consider the action of the Department, under the act of 1846, for their relief, as yet complete; that further instructions might possibly be received which would require an enrolment of those wishing to "become and remain Indians;" the which, if done, would at once produce a division of the tribe; which, it appeared to me, might be done in accordance with the law. They, however, appeared impatient, and intimated an intention to set up their former government with rigor over the whole reservation.

In the meantime, a person assuming to be a *collector*, under the territorial township government, was demanding of these Indians the payment of certain *taxes* for the support of the town and county government. I promptly advised this collector of my opinion that these people could not be legally taxed since the passage of the act of 1846, which "restored the Stockbridges to their ancient privileges." The collector, however, disregarded these admonitions, and proceeded to distrain property for these taxes. This was, to some extent, resisted by the Indians, though the collector, seconded with the aid of "the citizen party," succeeded in seizing a considerable amount of property.

The Indians became excited, and invited the Oneidas to aid them, with a force of numbers, to retake their property from the collector and the citizen party. On Friday last, when I arrived there, I found a force of some thirty Oneidas, and as many Stockbridges, assembled; they had already, the day before, broken open several buildings, entered some two or three houses of citizen Indians and white men, and retaken property. This state of things was producing a state of feeling which, it appeared to disinterested observers, would soon lead to *bloodshed.*

I immediately assembled the Indians. I advised the Oneidas that their proceedings were ill-advised, and that they should repair to their village without delay.

I then counselled the Stockbridges that they should suspend further action in pursuing after distrained property, and to disperse to their several places of abode until the matter could be referred to the superintendent for his direction.

The complaints of the Stockbridges are—

1. That, although Congress has passed an act (of 1846) to restore them to their ancient privileges, still it is disregarded by the citizen party and the whites, who are endeavoring to compel them to pay taxes.

2. That the white families, some twelve in number, who have got into their reservation under the act of 1843, are not yet removed; and that, until they are, they will have no benefit from the act of 1846, passed for their relief.

The whole case is surrounded with difficulties. Under the act of 1843, the whole reservation was laid off and surveyed into small lots, and apportioned to the different individuals of the tribe. The whites who are on the reservation have, as they allege, purchased in good faith, paid valuable consideration, and made valuable im-

provements. They evince a willingness to refer the matter to the judicial tribunals.

For the present, quiet is, I believe, restored in that village; but the exasperated feeling of the parties is such, particularly of the Indian party, that it will probably ere long again be disturbed.

Enclosed herewith is respectfully submitted the communications of Messrs. Marsh and Colman, and others, touching this matter.

I respectfully ask that the matter may engage the early attention of the Department, and that an expression may be given as to whether any further action will be ordered under the act of 6th August, 1846.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS,
Sub-Indian Agent.

To his Excellency, HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Madison, Wisconsin Territory.

STOCKBRIDGE, *December* 3, 1846.

DEAR SIR: At your request I will mention some of the difficulties which appear to me to be in the way of carrying into effect the act of 1846, for the relief of a portion of the Stockbridge Indians, called the "Indian party," unless it is altered or modified in some form.

In the first place, the Indian party, as well as the citizens, availed themselves of the act of 1843, and have sold lands in every part of the township or reservation, and have given warrantee deeds. There are but few of the Indian party but what have sold, some more and others less, land under that act; amongst these are the two leading men of the party, viz: John W. Quinney and Austin E. Quinney; and the same may be said of the citizen party with regard to sales of land.

Said lands were sold by both parties, and deeds given in good faith; if any advantage has been taken in any instance, it has not come to my knowledge. Neither has any land been bought for ardent spirits, or when the owners were intoxicated. Provided said sales should be declared null and void, not one who has thus sold land has the means of remunerating the purchasers for the original cost and interest. But, upon some, considerable improvements have already been made by the purchasers, who are now actually occupying them; and how are these citizens to be repaid, as the Indians have not the means? The citizens who are now occupying these lands are, without exception, sober, industrious men, and are not able to lose what they have paid out, as well as the improvements.

The farms in the north and south parts of the township are of unequal value. There are, for example, two of the citizen party in the northern part who will have to remove if the act is carried into effect; and one of them has a valuable framed barn, but there is only one framed barn in the southern part, and that is not worth

half as much as the one he now has. Who is to pay these men the balance for what they have to give up? for the Indian party have not the means. The same is the case with regard to the Indian party; some of them have valuable farms in the southern part of the township, which they must leave; but who shall remunerate them for what they have to give up in case of removal? The citizen party certainly cannot do it in a single instance. More than this, the Indian party, according to the late act, contemplate, I am informed, depriving hereafter the citizen party of moneys received from the United States, which will render them less able to pay any balance.

If it is said that the $6,000 which the nation is expecting to receive from the government must be taken to enable them to make the transfers, and pay their creditors for lands, &c., I reply, the nation now owes a heavy debt which, with the individual debts, will require more than that sum of money to pay, aside from their sales of land.

But there is another feature in the recent act which appears to me truly surprising, and that is, it contemplates depriving the citizen party, after enrolment, of any moneys from the United States.

This appears to me to be placing very serious obstacles in the way of Indians becoming citizens, instead of encouraging it, as it appears to me true philanthropy would. The very munificent appropriations of money from government, in years past, for the promotion of education amongst Indians has appeared to me to be dictated by such a spirit; and especially the pains taken to encourage schools by the government, has said to the civilized world, and particularly to the Indians, the object is to elevate them in the scale of intellectual beings—to induce them to abandon the pagan state, and raise them to a level with civilized men, and to all the privileges and enjoyments of such a state. If this is not the object, I would say, far better never appropriate another dollar to the hitherto supposed most laudable object of civilizing the Indians. Because a useless expenditure of money, to elevate them a little, and not continue to do it until they arrive to that state in which they are qualified to become citizens; because when a beginning has once been made there should be no stopping place until they reach this point. In the half civilized state they are incapable of self-government, nor are they qualified to become citizens. If they are to be abandoned, better do it in the pagan state than to elevate them a little and then do it; because *total ignorance* suits the no-government state of all uncivilized Indians much the best. But there is still another objectionable feature. If the Indians are told that the government will have no sympathy for them, so soon as they leave the Indian state, what a damper that will put upon all efforts to instruct their children. How paradoxical to say to the Indian, instruct your children, we will appropriate money and send you teachers, &c., but if you rise so high in the attainment of knowledge, and of the useful arts, as to be prepared to leave the Indian state and take your place amongst civilized men, we will have no sympathy for you! What a disappointment of long-

cherished hopes, on the part of the Indians, and what a waste of time on the part of teachers and missionaries! That the Indians are capable of being raised to a level with civilized white men, I have most abundant reason to believe, after a residence of many years amongst them. There is another consideration of great moment, which I would urge upon the attention of every true philanthropist, and that is, that civilization and christianity united can alone save the Indian from entire extinction. The Indian state must pass away—it is among the things which have become old, and is ready to vanish away. This state is a most powerless, destructive thing to the true interests of mankind. And leave the Indians to the native state, and in a few generations there will not be a tribe within the limits of the United States. God has made the earth to be inhabited—the Indians in their native state will not do it. But the population of our own country and foreign emigration are going to multiply, replenish, and subdue the earth in these United States; and what, then, must become of the Indians who will not do it, or avail themselves of civilization, and thus aid in accomplishing the purpose of the Creator?

Yours, very truly,
CUTTING MARSH.

To A. G. Ellis,
U. S. Sub-Indian Agent, Green bay.

Stockbridge, *January* 15, 1847.

Dear Sir: The circumstances in which we are placed, compel us to address you, and claim your protection against the outrages and violence of mob law that prevails in this town at present, and to all appearances is likely to continne, unless effectual measures are taken to prevent it. The Indian party of the Stockbridge people have called in the assistance of the Oneidas to aid them in resisting the execution of the laws of the United States, in the collection of taxes among them, and it is supposed that some thirty or forty are now on the spot for this purpose. Yesterday, under the guidance of the headmen of the Stockbridges, they broke open one barn, and entered houses wherever they chose, in search of property that had been taken for taxes—no place being secure against their violence. Unless some effectual measures are speedily taken to keep the Oneidas at home, and prevent such outrages in future, we fear that life will be sacrificed in this unfortunate affair.

Yours, with great respect,
CUTTING MARSH,
HENRY R. COLEMAN,
LEMUEL GOODELL,
JOHN C. WHITNEY,
JESSE MILLS.

Mr. A. G. Ellis,
U. S. Sub-Indian Agent, Green Bay.

GREEN BAY, *December* 24, 1846.

DEAR SIR: The "Indian party" of the Stockbridge Indians have just applied to me for counsel and advice in their present difficulties. It appears that notwithstanding the passage of the law by Congress at its last session for their "relief," they are still harrassed and threatened with the enforcement of the laws of our Territory for the collection of taxes. Their lands have been again assessed and taxed, and a collector (a white man) has called upon them for the payment of the taxes assessed upon *their Indian lands*, and threatens to levy on and sell their cattle, and other personal property, to pay these illegal and unjust exactions. I have advised them to refuse payment, and peaceably and quietly to resist their collection; and I deem it proper to notify you of this unfortunate state of things, in order that you may notify the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, so that the authority of the government may be interposed to prevent the enforcement of unjust impositions; and to stay the proceedings of a few designing white men, who have got amongst them, and create great vexation and trouble between the two parties of these harmless and much injured people. Unless something is done to prevent it, I fear some unfortunate collision between the parties may be the consequence.

Respectfully, yours, &c.,

HENRY S. BAIRD,
Attorney for Indian party.

A. G. ELLIS, Esq.,
U. S. Indian Sub-agent.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, April 16, 1847.

SIR: The pressure of business towards the close of the late session of Congress, and since the adjournment, has prevented my communicating with you at an earlier period, in relation to the difficulties among the Stockbridge Indians, in reply to your letter and the report of Sub-agent Ellis on the subject.

By the act of March 3d, 1843, the tribal character of those Indians was taken away, and they were to become citizens of the United States on the filing of the report of the commissioners chosen to carry out its provisions, and of a map showing the division and assignment required by it of the lands in severalty. These papers were duly executed and filed, and all the pre-requisites to citizenship fulfilled, and the Stockbridges, therefore, to all intents and purposes, became citizens, with all the rights, privileges, and immunities of citizenship. The act of August 6th, 1846, repealed that of 1843, and provided that all who desired might return to their original position as Indians, and that those who preferred remaining citizens, should have the right to do so on their coming forward and enrolling their names, with that view, within three

months after the opening of registers, and notice to that effect being given by the sub-agent at Green Bay, whom the act constituted a commissioner to carry out its provisions. It was further provided, that the lands of the Stockbridges should be divided between the two parties in proportion to numbers—one portion to be called the Indian, and the other the citizen district; and that those in the latter should be subdivided and assigned, in severalty, to the individuals of the citizen party. Due notice was given, and afterwards repeated, for all to come forward and register their names, who intended remaining citizens, but none did so; the members of the citizen party alleging that it was a useless procedure, as they were already invested with the rights and privileges of citizenship under the act of 1843, of which they could not be deprived by a subsequent act. On the other hand the Indian party allege, that as none came forward and enrolled themselves as citizens, all are again now Indians, and the lands their property in common, as they were prior to the act of 1843; and they have applied to the sub-agent to have all the white persons upon them removed as intruders.

In a letter a short time since received from Austin E. Quinney, he alleges that he has been elected sachem of the tribe, and claims payment of certain moneys due under the treaty of September, 1839, which, since the act of 1843, could not be paid over, because that act, in abolishing the tribal character of the Stockbridges, carried with it the sachem and councillors, to whom, or to such persons as they should appoint, the treaty referred to specifically provided the money should be paid.

The whole subject is one of no little difficulty, upon which the Department can come to no definite determination without further and more particular information on several points.

The Indians having acquired citizenship under the act of, 1843, serious doubts are entertained, whether, without their own consent at least, this right can be annulled by a subsequent law. Those intending to remain citizens having refused to enrol their names—we do not know how many there are—and there is, therefore, no rule by which to make the division and assignment of the lands required by the act of 1846. If such division be practicable at all, in view of the parties living intermingled with each other, it can only be affected by ascertaining the number and names of those intending to resume their aboriginal position, and of those who desire to continue citizens of the United States under the act of 1843. This can be done only by reversing the mode of proceeding presented by the act of 1846, and deducting the number favorable to that act from the whole number, or by requiring both parties to enrol themselves on separate and distinct lists, which would probably be the fairest and most impartial course. You will, therefore, please instruct the sub-agent to ascertain and report the number and names of each party accordingly.

It is represented that many of the Stockbridges, including members of the Indian party, have sold or assigned the lands allotted to them, in severalty, under the act of 1843. While it is also alleged

that this has been done under circumstances which entitle the sales or assignments to no very favorable consideration, it is desirable to know how far this has been done by members of either party, and how far the sales have been for a valuable consideration, and it has been paid to the vendors or been adequately secured to them. The object is to ascertain to what extent innocent purchasers, if any, who bargained fairly and in good faith, have acquired rights which in justice should be respected and protected.

As it may have a material bearing on the course hereafter to be pursued in this matter, it is deemed important to ascertain, with as much particularity as practicable, how far the Stockbridges of both parties accepted and exercised the rights of citizenship conferred on them by the act of 1843, and to what extent they have been recognized by the authorities of Wisconsin, and been made subject to the laws of that Territory.

The Department also wishes to be informed to what extent the Stockbridges have actually re-organized themselves under their original form of government, and in what mode they have chosen a sachem and councillors.

It is represented that much excitement, and very nearly bloodshed, have been occasioned by the authorities of Wisconsin endeavoring to enforce the laws of the Territory for the collection of taxes upon the Stockbridges. It is hoped that the authorities will see the propriety of desisting, if practicable, from any such attempts, until the unfortunate disputes and difficulties among those Indians shall have been in some way settled by the government; and Mr. Quinney will be informed by the sub-agent, in answer to his letter which has been referred to, that until that shall have been done, he cannot be recognized as sachem, or that the Indian party has any properly organized government or officers.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

His Excellency HENRY DODGE,
Governor of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

GREEN BAY SUB-INDIAN AGENCY,
July 16, 1847.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: Your communication of the 1st of May last, covering a letter of instructions from the Hon. Mr. Medill, touching the case of the Stockbridges, was duly received.

In obedience to the requirements of the Hon. Commissioner, I repaired to Stockbridge on the 24th day of May last, when, after assembling them in full council, I opened the subject, read and explained fully the Hon. Commissioner's letter, and gave each party a copy. I soon found they would require much time for deliberation, and that some subsequent day would have to be fixed for their action, especially in the matter of furnishing me with the lists

of the separate parties. Accordingly, I met them again on the 7th of July instant, and spent three days in the prosecution of the business.

I found no little difficulty in making such lists of these Indians and their different parties, as would enable me to present a tolerable clear view of the facts. On obtaining that of the Indian party, (paper marked A,) as furnished by themselves, the citizen party objected to a great part of the names on various grounds, some of which appeared to be of sufficient importance to demand presentation in this report.

1st. That the Indian party had included in their list names of persons who had sold out all their interest in Stockbridge, to the United States, at their treaty of 3d September, 1839, and enrolled themselves as constituting the "emigrating party for Missouri."

2d. That a large proportion of the persons named in the list given in by the Indian party, had virtually *accepted* of the act of 1843, and confirmed the proceeding of the commissioners chosen to carry it into effect, by receiving the lands set apart to them in severalty by the commissioners, and by subsequently selling and deeding away much of the same, to bona fide purchasers, in the ordinary manner; and also by voting at elections under the laws of the territory, and in many other ways recognising the act of 1843.

3d. That the Indian party had included in their list, without being able to name them, a large number (80) of Munsees (said to be) in the State of New York. The citizen party allege that these Munsees are entirely unknown here; that, if any such exist at all, they must live in *Canada;* that the only Munsees who have ever come here to claim any right in these lands were *Kill Snake* and *Big Deer*, and their families; and that they both sold out, with others of the emigrating party, in 1839.

I have endeavored to set forth those several objections more particularly on a *tabular statement* of a list of the Indian party, as shown in paper marked B.

The citizen party presented me with a document, (marked C,) signed by their principal men, but declined giving any formal list that might go to form a basis for any new division of lands. Being determined, however, to obtain their names and numbers with as much particularity as possible, I proceeded, in council of both parties, to call them out by name, (using the last year's annuity roll for that purpose,) and set down the names of individuals and heads of families, and their numbers, as exhibited in paper D. This list is admitted by the citizen party to be complete. Objections were raised by the Indian party to a few names as shown in marginal remarks.

These two lists, with the remarks attached, will, it is believed, enable the Department to judge of the relative force of the two parties, and who of them are entitled to land in the tract, and those who, under all the circumstances, should be heard in their pleas, either for or against the act of 1846.

A list of the sales of land, since the report of the commissioners,

under the act of 1843, with the grantors' and grantees' names, dates, considerations, &c., will be found over the certificate of the register of deeds for the proper county, in a paper marked D D.

I was doubtful in what manner to procure the other items of information called for in the Hon. Commisioner's instructions—finally adopted the plan of addressing letters to two of the most respectable gentlemen in the vicinity, and who have been long and intimately acquainted with the Stockbridges and their affairs. Copies of these papers will be found in papers marked E and F, and their answers G and H. These responses of Messrs. Marsh and Whitney may be implicitly relied on. The former has been their missionary for seventeen years, under the patronage of the American board of missions; and the latter has been their chief friend, *financially*, and their confidential adviser for more than twenty years, and is now especially so of the Indian party. They are both gentlemen whose character for candor and integrity is beyond all question.

* * * * * * * * *

The evidence in support of the claim of the Indian party, to having organized under their ancient form of government, since the passage of the act of 1846, is objected to by the citizen party on the ground that the *notice* for the *election* was not sufficient, and that, therefore, many desirous of participating in the choice of officers were not present.

I have now only to mention a lengthy and somewhat formal communication, presented to the honorable the commissioner by the Indian party, marked K, which closes the list of documents.

I do not know whether it is expected of me to submit any advice as to the solution of these difficulties. I hazard but a single remark. The occasion (but not a principal one) of the opposition to the act of 1846, is the *forfeiture* created by the *proviso* to the 2d section, of all right to receive any portion of any annuity by any "who may become citizens."

On the other hand, it appears to me that the main source of the opposition to the act of 1843 has been the desire on the part of a few of the Indian party to control *en masse* the application and disbursement of the moneys due and payable to the Stockbridges from the government on whatever account. The $5,000 appropriated by the act of 6th of August, 1846, is a fruitful source of this disposition. A single individual claims already $2,000 of this appropriation, and is expecting to have it paid to him soon.

I would suggest, then, that the sooner this fund is paid, the better; and most especially that it be paid *to the Stockbridges per capita*.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS,
Sub-Indian Agent.

To his excellency, HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, W. T.

(*a*.)

List of the names of the heads of families and other adults of the Stockbridge Indians, who have and now do dissent to the act of the Congress of the United States, approved March 3, *A. D.* 1843, *entitled "An act for the relief of the Stockbridge Indians in the Territory of Wisconsin," and who approve of the act of said Congress, approved on the* 6*th day of August, A. D.* 1846, *repealing the first mentioned act. And the undersigned declare hereby their desire to remain under the government of their own laws and usages, and under the protection of their several treaties with the government of the United States.*

Names of heads of families, &c.	Adults.		Children.		Total.
	No. of men.	No. of women.	No. of boys.	No. of girls.	
Austin E. Quinney	1	1	3	4	9
John Metoxan	1	1	.....	1	3
Benjamin Pye, sen. ....his x mark	1	1	.....	.....	2
Garret Thompson ....his x mark	1	1	3	.....	5
Elisha Honkapot.........his x mark	1	1	1	.....	3
John W. Quinney	1	1	2	1	5
John P. Quinney	1	1	1	.....	3
Nancy Hunt	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Peter D. Littleman	1	1	1	3	6
Jonas Thompson ....his x mark	1	1	1	1	4
James Joshua.............his x mark	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Joseph M. Quimuckhant	1	1	2	1	5
Simon S. Metoxen	1	1	2	3	7
Benjamin Pye, 2d.........his x mark	1	1	1	3	6
Thomas Schanandoah.....his x mark	1	1	.....	.....	2
Aaron Turkey ....his x mark	1	1	3	2	7
Abram Pye...............his x mark	1	1	3	2	7
Benjamin Pye, 4th	1	1	.....	1	3
Benjamin Doxtator	1	1	1	.....	3
Dr. Big Deer.............his x mark	1	1	.....	2	4
Moses Charles ....his x mark	1	1	1	1	4
Benjamin Pye, 3d........his x mark	1	1	1	.....	3
Washington Quinney	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Eli Williams	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Samuel Stephens	1	.....	.....	.....	1
David Palmer.............his x mark	1	1	1	.....	3
Jacob Konkapot...........his x mark	1	1	.....	1	3
Daniel Metoxen..........his x mark	1	1	.....	.....	2
Thomas S. Branch	1	.....	.....	.....	1

(a)—Continued.

Names of heads of families, &c.	Adults.		Children.		Total.
	No. of men.	No. of women.	No. of boys.	No. of girls.	
Widow Elizabeth Palmer..her x mark	.....	1	1	1	3
Widow Elizabeth Aaron...her x mark	.....	1	1	2	4
L. T. Peters....................	1	1	4	.....	6
Catharine Butterfield...............	.....	1	.....	1	2
Samuel Miller....................	1	1	4	2	8
Louisa Jameson..................	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Jacob Jehoiakin..................	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Sally Quinney....................	.....	1	1	1	3
Widow Hannah Marquis............	.....	1	1	.....	2
Anna Turkey, widow..............	.....	1	.....	.....	1
George T. Bennett................	1	1	.....	1	3
Jeremiah Slingerland...............	1	.....	.....	.....	1
John Yoccum.............his x mark	1	1	1	2	5
Mary Hendrick....................	.....	1	1	1	3
Elizabeth Wilber..................	.....	1	1	5	7
Absent.					
John Killsnake....................	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Aaron Konkapot..................	1	1	.....	1	3
Mary and Louisa Konkapot.........	.....	2	.....	.....	2
John W. Quinney, jr., and sister....	1	.....	.....	1	2
Elijah Lowry.....................	1	1	.....	.....	2
Carissa Miller....................	.....	1	2	.....	3
Rachel Calom.....................	.....	1	.....	1	2
Elizabeth Pye.....................	.....	1	5	.....	6
Abram McKown....................	1	1	.....	.....	2
John Hatchet.....................	1	1	.....	.....	2
Jeremiah Slingerland, jr... } Henry Slingerland........ }	2	.....	.....	.....	2
Munsees in New York State........	.....	.....	.....	.....	80
Phebe Skicket, widow.............	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Jemima Doxtator..................	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Josiah Abrams, wife and sister......	1	2	.....	.....	3
Jonathan C. Johnston..............	3	1	.....	.....	4

(b.)

Tabular statement of a list of the Indian party of the Stockbridges, showing the objections made by the citizen party to certain names thereon.

Names.	Missouri or emigrating party, who ceded their rights at the treaty of 1839.	Munsees.	Persons unknown here.	Absent.	Persons who have sold lands under act of 1843.	Not objected to on any account.	Total.	General remarks.
Austin E. Quinney					9		9	Grand sachem of the Indian party.
John Metoxen						3	3	
Benjamin Pye, sen					2		2	
Gerritt Thompson					5		5	
Elisha Konkapot	3						3	Vide treaty September 3, 1839, article 2, and schedule of the emigrating party.
John W. Quinney					5		5	Man of chief influence of this party; educated; intelligent.
John P. Quinney					3		3	Was elected, and served as collector of taxes under laws of territory, 1845.
Nancy Hunt			1				1	
Peter D. Littleman					6		6	
Jonas Thompson						4	4	
James Joshua					1		1	
Joseph M. Quinney						5	5	
Simon S. Metoxen					7		7	
Benjamin Pye, 2d						6	6	
Thomas Skenandoah					2		2	
Aaron Turkey					7		7	
Abraham Pye						7	7	
Benjamin Pye, 4th					3		3	
Benjamin Docksdader						3	3	
Dr. Big Deer	4	4					4	Munsee, who joined emigrating party and sold out in 1839.—Vide treaty of 1839.
Moses Charles						4	4	
Benjamin Pye, 3d					3		3	
Washington Quinney						1	1	
Eli Williams	1						1	Vide schedule of emigrating party, treaty of 1839. This man went to Missouri, and returned; charged with murder.
Samuel Stevens							1	Objected to as a full-blooded negro; never adopted into the tribe.
David Palmer					3		3	
Jacob Konkapot	3						3	A son of Robert Konkapot; went to Missouri and returned.
Daniel Metoxen						2	2	
Thomas S. Branch	1						1	Now in Canada; sold out in 1839.
Elizabeth Palmer						3	3	
Elizabeth Aaron							4	
Ziba T. Peters	6						6	Vide schedule of treaty of 1839.
Catharine Butterfield						2	2	
Samuel Miller						8	8	
Louisa Jameson						1	1	
Jacob J. Maikum			1 nearly	1			1	Not here for many years; as likely to attach to one party as the other; purposes not known.
Sally Quinney						3	3	
Hannah Marquis						2	2	
Anna Turkey						1	1	
George T. Bennett					1		1	Formerly of the citizen party; has sold out all his lands; expects to get it all back again under act of 1846.
Jeremiah Slingerland						1	1	
John Yoccum					1		1	Same expectation by him as by Bennett.
Mary Hendrick							3	Claimed by both parties; preference not known in council.
Elizabeth Wilber							7	Same as Mary Hendrick.
John Killsnake	1	1		1			1	Canada Indian; this man and Big Deer, the only Munsees that ever came to the country; Killsnake absent; place of abode not known.
Aaron Konkapot	3			3			3	Descendants of other Konkapots who went to Missouri.
Mary and Louisa Konkapot	2			2			2	
John W. Quinney, jr., and sister				2			2	Not here for many years, preferences unknown.
Elijah Lowry				1			1	Same remark as above.
Clarissa Miller			1	1			1	Same as above; preferences unknown.
Rachel Calvin				2			2	Same as above.
Elizabeth Pye				6			6	Same as above.
Abraham McKown			1	1			1	Same as above; hardly a member of the tribe.

(*b.*)—*Tabular statement of a list of the Indian party of the Stockbridges*—Continued.

Names.	Missouri or emigrating party, who ceded their rights at the treaty of 1839.	Munsees.	Persons unknown here.	Absent.	Persons who have sold lands under act of 1843.	Not objected to on any account.	Total.	General remarks.
John Hatchet	....	......	1	1	....	....	1	Same as above.
Jeremiah Slingerland and Henry Slingerland	....	......	2	2	....	....	2	Never been here.
Phebe Skiket, (who?) Missouri	....	......	1	1	....	....	1	Same as above.
Jeremiah Docksdader	....	......	1	1	....	....	1	Same as above.
Josiah Abraham, wife, and sister	....	......	3	3	....	....	3	Who are tbey?—unknown.
Jonathan C. Johnson	....	......	4	4	....	....	4	Unknown.
Munsees in the State New York	....	80	80	80	....	....	80	Not known; probably most of them in Canada.
	24	85	96	112	58	60	260	

(c.)

STOCKBRIDGE, CALUMET COUNTY,
Wisconsin Territory, June 7, Anno Domini 1847.

SIR: The undersigned, formerly of the Stockbridge tribe of Indians, respectfully represent that they became entitled to all the privileges of citizenship in the United States, by an act of Congress approved March 3, 1843, entitled "An act for the relief of the Stockbridge Indians in Wisconsin."

They further represent that the said tribe did throw aside their own form of government, and avail themselves of all the privileges conferred upon them by the said act of 1843; that they have given and received titles of lands by warrantee deeds and mortgage, and the bonds are on record in the county register's office; attended as petit and grand jurors in district courts, and participated in the elective franchise in the election of officers, as members of the legislature of the Territory, and delegate to Congress; that some of the individuals calling themselves members of the Indian party have been elected to local offices, under the laws of the Territory, availed themselves of the law in the collection of debts, and, wherever it was necessary, for the redress of grievances; and it is not known whether they ever have attempted to clear themselves from the law by claiming to be Indians, (excepting in one instance—a Sambo, claimed to be a Stockbridge Indian, when in fact he had not a drop of Stockbridge blood in him—) but in all cases have stood by the issue in law.

They further represent, that Congress did pass an act approved August 6, 1846, to repeal the aforesaid act of 1843, and to restore the Stockbridge tribe of Indians to their ancient privileges; but they do not recognise in Congress any power to disfranchise them of their rights as citizens of the United States. They, therefore, will not make application; and pray now to have granted anew what they already possess to the fullest extent, or enrol themselves so as to make a rule by which a chance for a new division can be given; for all those lands which they have sold and disposed of in good faith, for valuable considerations, to innocent purchasers, they will forever hold good, and the titles, as they themselves will forever remain citizens of the United States. And do hereby, as they have heretofore, earnestly and solemnly protest against any infraction of their rights as such, or reversal of the decisions and assignments of lands of their commissioners, which were executed in good faith, under the direction of legal counsel, and with the law of Congress open before them.

JOHN W. ABRAMS.
JOHN N. CHICKS.
JOSEPH L. CHICKS.
DANIEL DAVID.
WILLIAM GARDNER.
JACOB MOORE.
JOHN LITTLEMAN.

his
ISAAC × JACOBS,
mark.
his
JOB × MOORE,
mark.
HARVEY JOHNSTON.
JOHN WILBER.
JOSIAH C. CHICKS,
Justice of the peace in same county.
his
JOSEPH × DOXTATOR.
mark.
ISAAC SIMMONS.
DERING DAVIDS.
LEVI KONKAPOT.
JOHN MOORE.
LEWIS BOMAN.
HENRY MOORE.
JACOB CHICKS.
JACOB DAVID.
TIMOTHY JOURDAN.

Witnessed by ARNOLD RHODES.

To A. G. ELLIS,
The Sub-Indian agent.

The undersigned, citizens of the town of Manchester, in the county of Calumet, and Territory of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that, to our certain knowledge, the Stockbridge nation or tribe of Indians have for the last three years participated in all the privileges of citizenship in said territory; that they have both purchased and conveyed away lands by deeds of warrant; that they have sued and been sued at courts of law; that they have exercised the elective franchise; and that they have served as jurors in the district court in said territory; and that they have on all such occasions demeaned themselves as good and wholesome citizens.

T. COMMICK.
JAS. CRAMOND,
Justice of the peace in and for county of Calumet, W. T.
WILLIAM DICK.
JAS. KUNF.
LEWIS FOWLER,
Register of Calumet county.
RANDAL ABNER,
J. P. of Calumet county.
ALEXANDER G. DICK.
ARNOLD RHODES.
R. S. HAYWARD.
JOSEPH TOCUS.

NATHAN EASTMAN.
JOHN W. JOHNSON, jr.
JOS. HAMMON.
JOHN MOUTHERS.
R. P. EATON, (of Calumut.)
JOHN A. EASTMAN, (Fon du Lac.)

To A. G. Ellis,
Sub-Indian agent.

(*d.*)

List of the citizen party of the Stockbridges, obtained by inquiry, in full council of both parties.

Names.	No.	Remarks.
John W. Abrams.....	6	
John N. Chicks......	7	
Joseph S. Chicks.....	4	
Daniel David........	3	
William Gardner.....	10	Objected to by the Indians as not being born of Stockbridge blood. It appears he had been adopted at a regular council.
Jacob Moore.........	1	
John Littleman......	2	
Isaac Jacob.........	3	
Job Moore...........	6	
Harvey Johnson......	6	Objected to by the Indian party as being born of white parents. He had been adopted by Indian parents, but not ascertained whether recognised fully by the tribe. His wife is a Stockbridge.
Josiah Chicks........	4	
Joseph Docksdader...	1	
Isaac Simmons.......	2	
Margaret Beaulien...	2	
Darius Davids.......	3	
Levi Konkapot.......	1	
John Moore..........	1	
Lucy Konkapot......	1	
Lewis Beauman......	7	
Abigail Moore.......	4	
Henry Moore........	2	
Jacob Chicks........	4	
Jacob David.........	9	
Timothy Jourdain....	8	
Sophia Moore........	1	
Mary McAlister......	4	
Catharine Franks	3	
Catharine Mills......	1	
Delilah Sicketer	1	
Amelia Fidler	1	
Jane Dean...........	3	
Betsey Wyall........	1	
Nancy Ham.........	1	
Betsey Managro......	3	
Charles Stevens	1	

(e.)

SUB-INDIAN AGENCY, GREEN BAY,
May 27, 1847.

REV. AND DEAR SIR: Herewith I submit respectfully for your examination, copy of a communication from the War Department, dated the 17th April, 1847, relating to the affairs of the Stockbridge Indians, and the proceedings had by me in December last, under the act of Congress of August 6, 1846, which repealed the act of March 3, 1843, and conferred upon that tribe the privilege of returning to their former Indian state.

From this paper you will perceive that the Hon. the Commissioner of Indian Affairs has made it my duty to collect and report on several points, preparatory to some further action by the Indian Department in the case. Much of this data can only be obtained by the courtesy of persons who, like yourself, have resided among and near those Indians for a length of time, and who may be disposed to give information to the government.

Presuming that in common with others, from motives of philanthropy, you may be willing to give your aid towards some adjustment of the difficulties existing among this unfortunate people, I respectfully submit the following list of inquiries, with the request that you will make written replies to each, or to such of them as you may be able to; and to communicate any other facts in relation to this subject that you may suppose will be useful, and aid the Department in coming to just conclusions in the premises.

1st. Have the Stockbridges, since the report of the commissioners for carrying into effect the act of Congress of March 3, 1843, for the relief of the Stockbridges, *sold lands*; and

2d. If any of them, of either party, have so sold, their names and those of the purchasers are desired?

3d. If any of the Stockbridges have sold land, it is desired to be known whether they did so for a valuable consideration, either paid or adequately secured?

4th. Are there innocent purchasers, who bought these lands in good faith, and whose rights, thus acquired, ought to be respected and protected?

5th. To what extent have the parties accepted and exercised the rights of citizenship under the act of 1843?

6th. To what extent have they been recognised as citizens by the authorities of Wisconsin, and been made subject to the laws of the Territory?

7th. To what extent have the Indian party of the Stockbridges re-organized themselves under their old form of government; and in what manner have they chosen a sachem and counsellors?

I am, Rev. sir, very respectfully, your obedient,

A. G. ELLIS,
U. S. sub-Indian Agent.

To the Rev. CUTTING MARSH,
Missionary among the Stockbridges.

(*f*.)

STOCKBRIDGE, CALUMET COUNTY,
July 6, 1847.

DEAR SIR: Yours of May 27th was duly received. I feel a strong degree of reluctance to take any part which shall subject me to the charge of taking sides with either party, still it is just that the Hon. the Commissioner of Indian Affairs should be furnished with all the information which can possibly be collected in this stage of the Stockbridges' affairs, in order that justice may be done to all parties concerned.

I will, therefore, answer the questions put in your letters, so far as I am able, or think it necessary.

1st. "Have the Stockbridges, since the report of the commissioners for carrying into effect the act of Congress of March 3, 1843, for the relief of the Stockbridge Indians, sold lands?"

They have; and, sir, I deeply regret, and am pained to hear, that any of the Stockbridges desire to have those sales set aside, made under the circumstances in which all were.

2d. "The names of all such are desired, and those of the persons to whom they sold."

For a list of the names, I refer you to the one which the county register of deeds has made out, and upon it the Department may safely rely as being correct in all respects.

I have seen a list of the names of the Indian party which have sold lands, and declare it correct according to the best of my knowledge. I am amongst the number of purchasers. Although my name will not appear on the register's list, as the man of whom I purchased died soon after, and I did not get my deed recorded, as I did not fear any other title ever being given.

3d. "Did they sell, or not, for a valuable consideration, either paid or adequately secured to them?"

They "did receive valuable consideration," viz: money, oxen, cows, horses, and goods, to my certain knowledge. If, in any instance, advantage was taken by any purchaser, I have not heard of it. Some have sold land for the payment of debts previously contracted.

4th. "Are there innocent purchasers who bought these lands in good faith, and whose rights thus acquired ought to be respected and protected?"

Certainly, in my opinion. My reasons for believing are the following: As the citizen party carried into effect the act of 3d March, 1843, and made due returns of their doings, I supposed, and others better acquainted with law than myself also supposed, that the citizen party, at least, were to all intents and purposes citizens.

Furthermore, when I ascertained that the Indian party was selling and giving warrantee deeds without any condition, either expressed or implied to the contrary, I confidently expected that they would confirm the sales, provided they ever became released from the act, as they intended and expected they should be. In view

of such a course the only opinion which can be expressed by those who desire to have justice done, is that it is high-handed fraud.

I will take the liberty to mention my own case. I purchased two lots of an aged man, Jeremiah Johnson, a member of the citizen party, when he was in the last stages of consumption, with the confident feeling that the title would never be called in question. Whether the Indian party got relieved from the act or not, I never expected that they would interfere with the other party's rights. I bought not for the purpose of speculation, but as a deed of charity to the aged and infirm widow whom he was going to leave behind. He was very poor, and his wife was past labor, and she was going to be left with a grandson, who also had a young family and was very poor. Fearing that she would often need things which his grandson could not provide for her comfort, he was very anxious to sell his lots, and have the money deposited where the old woman could draw upon it as often as her necessities required; besides, if not sold in his lifetime, the old woman could not give a deed of them. The purchaser who was expected did not arrive, and the old gentleman was fast failing, and I felt it to be a duty to do something for the future comfort of his widow; for as long as she was able to work she was industrious, and, besides, was much respected. I therefore purchased and gave one dollar per acre for the whole of the two lots, amounting to about one hundred and thirty-two dollars. This appeared to me to be a just and equitable consideration.

To show the nature of the sales, I will mention two other cases, and quote from the deeds as they stand recorded in the register's office, viz: John W. Quinney and Austin E. Quinney. I shall quote verbatim et literatim as I found them in the register's book, so far as I go; and there is no man in the community who understands the nature of a contract better than John W. Quinney. There are none in the nation so ignorant as not to be able to understand perfectly well the meaning of a contract; and it is not too much, therefore, to say, that they would never have thought of refusing to confirm every sale, had they not been put up to it.

"This indenture, made the sixth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, between John W. Quinney, of Calumet county, Wisconsin Territory, party of the first part, and Henry Eugene Eastman, of Brown county, party of the second part, witnesseth: That the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of one hundred and twenty dollars, in hand paid by the party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, has granted, bargained, sold, remised, released, aliened, and confirmed, and by these presents doth grant, bargain, sell, remise, release, alien, and confirm, unto the said party of the second part, and to his heirs and assigns forever, all that certain lot, piece, or parcel of land, situated, lying, and being in Calumet county, and known and particularly described as lot number fifty-one (51) in the "Stockbridge reservation," in said county, and containing fifty-eight acres of land, more or less, according to the re-

corded map or plat of said reservation. And the said John W. Quinney, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, doth covenant, bargain, grant, and agree, to and with the said party of the second part, and his heirs and assigns, that at the time of the ensealing and delivering of these presents, he is well seized of the premises above conveyed as of a good, sure, perfect, absolute, and indefeasible estate of inheritance in law, in fee simple, and has good right, full power, and lawful authority to grant, bargain, sell, and convey the same in manner and form aforesaid, and that the same are free and clear of all incumbrances of what kind and nature soever; and that the above bargained premises, in the quiet and peaceable possession of the said party of the second part, will forever warrant and defend.

JOHN W. QUINNEY.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of
JOHN P. ARNDT,
S. R. COTTON.

"The above certified to by John P. Arndt, justice of the peace for the county of Brown."

The other deed was given by Austin E. Quinney to Daniel Butler, of Green Bay, and he received the money for his pay:

"This indenture, made the third day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, between Austin E. Quinney and his wife, of the county of Calumet, Wisconsin Territory, parties of the first part, and Daniel Butler, of Brown county, &c., party of the second part, witnesseth: That the parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and two dollars, lawful money of the United States, to them in hand paid by the said party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby confessed and acknowledged, have granted," &c., &c., "sixty-two acres and a half of land, be the same more or less," &c., &c.

AUSTIN E. QUINNEY.
her
JANE × QUINNEY.
mark.

Signed in the presence of
CUTTING MARSH,
PAUL D. HAYWOOD.

"The above deed is certified to by Paul D. Haywood, justice of the peace for Calumet county."

This latter deed was made out in the usual form, the same as the other; and to quote the whole, I deem it unnecessary for the present occasion, but in it the *survey* and *map* are particularly recognized.

In view, sir, of such instruments, and deliberately and voluntarily subscribed to in the presence of competent witnesses, I ask, how can they be set aside without the most palpable injustice?

Is it possible to suppose that candid men, honest and upright in all their dealings, men of business, too, and well acquainted with law, would purchase lands, give a valuable consideration, and pay, too, what they considered a fair price for the lands so purchased, when they were in doubt about the titles? especially when the vendors expressed no doubt, made no reserve whatever, and voluntarily offered to give warrantee deeds?

Yet, sir, under these circumstances, and in the manner as above described, have the lands in Stockbridge been sold.

5th. "To what extent have the parties (Indians) exercised the rights of citizenship under the act of 1843?"

The list above referred to will show to what extent the Indian party have availed themselves of the right of selling land; and all that has been deeded away or mortgaged to citizens of the United States, or to one another, has been according to the laws of the United States, and not according to Indian laws or custom. A number of the party have voted at elections; some have served as jurors, others have prosecuted, and one, who usually held some office every year under the Indian government, was collector in 1845."

6th. "To what extent have they been recognized as citizens by the authorities of Wisconsin, and made subject to the laws of the territory?"

At all the elections, their votes have been received the same as other citizens of the United States; they have been taxed the same, have prosecuted, and have been prosecuted the same; and in no case have they been excepted to because they were Indians. In short, sir, since the passage of the act of 1843, all the Indian laws previously existing have been suspended; and all legal business of whatever kind, so far as it has come to my knowledge, has been done according to the laws of the United States. Since the Indian party re-organized their government last winter, I have not known them to do any business according to it.

7th. "To what extent have the Indian party of the Stockbridges re-organized themselves under their old form of government, and in what manner have they chosen a sachem and counsellors?"

"I was informed by one of the leading members of the party at the time, that they had chosen their officers the same as before; but I do not recollect to have seen any public notice posted up as formerly announcing when the election would take place, or what officers were to be chosen; and have been informed that no such notice was given, although the meeting was held at the usnal time at which they formerly met for the election of such officers.

Yours, very respectfully,

CUTTING MARSH.

To A. G. Ellis, esq.,
U. S. Sub-Indian Agent, Green Bay.

(g.)

SHEBOYGAN, *June* 17, 1847.

SIR: Yours of the 28th May would have been answered ere this, but for the want of time to get the information that you require; and now I cannot answer all of the questions with as much precision as I wish. As to the sales of lands by the Stockbridges, after the division by the commissioners and their report, there has been land to a large amount sold, and they have received their pay in most cases, I think; and the prices paid have been all they were worth, so far as I have bought, (and I have bought more than any other individual.) I should be glad to get what I paid for them, and I think that nearly all that have bought would be glad to do the same. The most of the purchasers bought in good faith, and ought to be protected; in fact, I do not know of but one case that I think there was fraud in the purchase, and that was one of the citizen party of that tribe that defrauded one of the Indian party. There is but very few of the whole of the two parties but what have sold land. I think not more than ten that is old enough to sell or give titles. There is some of the Indian party that have held office and voted at the elections with the citizen party, at their town and county elections.

They were authorized by the legislature of the territory to form a township government, and they have chosen their officers, levied and collected taxes, and one of the Indian party, John P. Quinney, acted as collector in 1845. They have held courts, served as jurymen; their property, both cattle and land, have been sold on execution, and the laws have been exercised over them the same as any other citizens.

As to the re-organization of the Indian party, they held their election as formerly, before the law passed for making them citizens, but the citizen party did not attend. I think that they are fully organized under their former laws; that is, the Indian party. There is quite a number that now, and some that always, have claimed to belong to the Indian party that have voted, held office, and sold land.

The above is as near to the facts that you wished to get at as I can give them to you, and I had more or less business with them for the last twenty-five years.

Yours, respectfully,

DANIEL WHITNEY.

A. G. ELLIS, *Sub-Indian Agent, Green Bay.*

(*k*.)

The Sachem and Councillors of the Stockbridge tribe of Indians, in Wisconsin Territory, to the Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs at Washington.

We have seen your communication to his excellency the Governor of this Territory, of the 16th April last, touching the difficulties and embarrassments under which our people live and still suffer.

We are pained to learn, as we do from that communication, that obstacles still lie in the way of rendering to us that full measure of justice which was contemplated by the act of the Congress of the United States, approved August 6, 1846.

Relying upon the assurances given in that act, and upon the treaties heretofore made by the United States, and which that act recognizes, we had hoped that our troubles were ended; and, having complied with the terms of that act, by the recognition of our government in its "ancient form," and in accordance with our ancient laws, we hoped that the moneys which were our due, under the stipulations of our treaties with the United States, would be promptly paid, (for our necessities require this,) and that hereafter we were to be relieved from the disturbances of those restless and ill-advised persons among us, who have sought to overturn the laws and abolish the government of their nation.

To effect these objects of the utmost importance to our peace and welfare, we cheerfully impart such information as we can upon those points which are the subject of inquiry in your letter, above referred to.

When the act of 1843 was passed, declaring us to be citizens of the United States, upon certain conditions, which we were neither to perform, nor had we any power to prevent the performance of; and when we saw a distribution of lands made under the proffered sanctions of that act, in which not only the whole body of our reserved lands, which we had garnered up as the sole hope of our posterity, were dissipated at once; but in which many of the possessions of individuals were recklessly disposed of, without consulting the wishes of the proprietor,—and all this at the bidding of certain men, not the choice of the nation, and neither whose age, discretion, or general habits entitled them to the confidence of the nation; and whose conduct in that particular case proved them to be utterly unfitted for the high trust they assumed.—When we saw all this we submitted, not with the deference *due* from the *wrong* to the *right*, but with the deference exacted from the weak by the strong. We adjured the principle of that act; we deplored its practical effects upon our condition. We were advised by those skilled in a knowledge of your laws that it was unauthorized by your own constitution. Still we offered no resistance; we felt that it held out no privileges to *us*. But we quietly yielded to its burdens, preferring to appeal to the very government which had (we believed) through mistake, inflicted the wrong, (a government to

the justice of which our fathers had taught us to trust,) to relieve us from that wrong. We made our appeal, and the Congress of the United States listened to us. They repealed the act of 1843; but in the meantime, that former act had been singularly disastrous in its effects upon our condition.

At the time of its passage most of our people were owing debts to our white neighbors, to pay which we chiefly relied upon the payment of moneys due us from the government of the United States. About four thousand dollars, being part of the amount due under the treaty of '39, had been regularly appropriated according to our laws, and granted to individuals to whom it was to be paid, as soon as received; but the men appointed to carry out the provisions of said act, arrogated to themselves the authority to dispose of it, diregarding the rights of individuals to the same, and absorbed it under various features. By the passage of the act (as is well known to the Department) all our means to support our public schools were cut off, by destroying at once the national character of our tribe, and the official character of those who alone could represent the tribe. Thus shortened in our means, new demands were made upon us. All were called upon to pay taxes, for the support of a government for whose existence our fathers have often fought, but to the *support* of which, they never designed their sons should pay tribute. With our diminished means, finding it impossible to meet their old and new demands, the holders of our previous liabilities turned in their constables upon us, and the county authorities turned in their collectors, and under their mutual levies and distresses, our personal property was fast dwindling away, which drove us to the worst evil of all, *to part with some of our land!* Here we deem it worthy of particular notice, that for the purpose of securing a permanent home, a portion of our people wished to become citizens of the United States!—But who, after the passage of the act of 1843, availed themselves of the earliest opportunity to part with all the land (or nearly so) allotted to them. The number of those persons are but few, compared with those to whom the land was secured by a treaty with the United States, but we discovered that this party, now called the citizen party, sold land mostly for the purpose of raising additional influence to sustain them; and we have felt all this influence exerted in opposition to us. A few of our people have also sold lands because they were told they could do so, who did not wish to become citizens; some out of mere disgust of the coercive means used to make them citizens, others who were discouraged of finding relief from trouble from their great father. We have also been told that much of our land has been sold for taxes. Though the amount of land sold by those called the Indian party is not very great, yet it is enough for the use of those who wished to commit them, to *proclaim* their acceptance of the law of 1843. On the whole, we believed, if we remained citizens, we should ere long be turned out of our possessions by the curious operations of the white man's law. We forbear going into the history of wrongs and oppressions visited upon us, because we refused to become citizens; but for all which we

would respectfully refer the Hon. Commissioner to the document 447, printed by order of the House of Representatives, at the 1st session, 29th Congress, and other documents relating to our affairs &c., filed, and may be found both in the War Department and the General Land Office.

Thus oppressed and desponding, we hailed with great gladness the passage of the repealing act of 1846—not because it did or could redress the evils already inflicted, but because we thought it insured us against the recurrence of similar ones. We trusted that those of the citizen party would be content with the full measure of distress they had visited upon us through the instrumentality of the law of 1843, and would avail themselves of the provision made in the 2d section of the law of 1846, for their professed wants, and seek under the auspices of a more powerful and (it may be) happier government, for that prosperity to which their faithlessness to our laws had not entitled them. But in this hope we were again disappointed. They rejected the proffered privileges they had sought, unless (it would seem) they should be coupled with grievous wrongs to us. They refuse, by enrolling their names, to show how many are willing to assume the obligation of allegiance to the United States. We met this difficulty in accordance with the suggestions contained in your letter, and have submitted to Mr. Ellis the names and number of those of us who desire to remain under Indian laws—the only laws which afford us any assurance of prosperity. We have organized a government for ourselves based upon those laws. In that organization, the undersigned have been unanimously chosen to the offices of sachem and councillors. We ask again, most respectfully, to be reorganized as such, according to the stipulations of the act of 1846. We ask that the country granted to the *Stockbridge* and *Munsee* Indians, upon the faith of a solemn treaty, may be protected to those tribes. If that country must be further reduced to satisfy the demands of those who spurn our society and our laws, let it be done, and let us know what we may look upon as the home of our living, and what we may rely upon for the graves of our dead. Believe us, we are not thus tenacious of our national character and rights from a mere romantic love of, and preference for, Indian habits and customs. True, we have some veneration for the memory of our fathers, and we have some pride in the recollection of those (our ancestors) who welcomed yours to American shores; who nursed them through the weakness of infancy to the strength of manhood; who fought for them the battles of that independence which alone gives you the power to dispose our fate and to speak our doom. But, above all, we have the abiding faith that we must be a people by ourselves. Our God hath made us distinct from you—we must remain so or perish. We can never participate in the wealth or the social privileges of the whites, however we might be made participants in their political privileges. Our limited possessions are not necessary to the glory or the prosperity of the United States; and to be valuable to us, they must be secured against the purchases of the whites. To encourage agriculture among our people, we allot to each male adult or head of a

family, a tract equal to his capacity to cultivate, and the balance we hold in common as a reserve, to be allotted to those who shall come after us. If our lands were to be held by each individual in fee, with full power to sell at pleasure—and surrounded as we are by a white population, eager and apt for acquisition—the generation which shall succeed us would find themselves without a home.

Surely it will not be deemed unreasonable in us that we feel a thrilling interest in the destiny of our race, and that we take some thought for its welfare. That we are obliged to this end to make frequent appeals to the government of the United States, is the result of events, not of our own ordering. Still, we ask only for the true observance of those treaties which have been quite as productive of good to that government as to us. After the repeal of the act of 1843, we resisted the payment of taxes to the government of this territory. We were advised that the laws of the United States were supreme over its territories, and that, as the law of 1843 furnished the only authority for levying taxes upon us, so the repeal of that act took away all such authority. We offered no resistance to the former law while it existed; but when it no longer existed, we felt authorized to prevent your subjects from trampling at once upon your laws and upon our dearest rights.

There is one remark in your letter to Governor Dodge which occasioned us some surprise—it is this: "The act of August 6, 1846, repealed the act of 1843, and provided that all who desired might *return* to their original position; and that all who preferred *remaining* citizens should have the right," &c. We have looked in vain for any such provisions in the act of 1846. We do find the repeal of the laws of 1843; and we find the whole Stockbridge nation restored to their ancient form of government, with all powers, rights, and privileges held and exercised by them under their customs and usages, as fully and completely as the above recited act had never passed; and we also find a provision enabling those who so desire (not to remain, but) "to become" citizens.

Now, although it matters not to us whether "we remain" in the Indian state or "return" *to* it, so long as we are permitted to enjoy that state; still, we have been advised that it makes a material difference in the understanding and interpretation of that law which reading it receives; and we have been advised that the law of 1846, drawn in view of 1843, was of no binding force. We may have been wrongly advised.

Again we repeat our regrets. Let the government of our choice be recognised; let the protection of American law be thrown *around* the Indian country, and not *over* it; let it be a bulwark to protect us against the encroachments of the whites, and not a whirlwind to scatter dissension and discord among us. We will add no more, and subscribe ourselves,

Most respectfully yours, &c., &c., &c.,

AUSTIN E. QUINNEY,
Sachem.

SAMUEL MILLER,
Z. T. PETERS,

his
JONAS ⋈ THOMPSON,
mark.
JOHN W. QUINNEY,
JOHN P. QUINNEY,
Councillors.

To the Hon. WM. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, at Washington, D. C.

STOCKBRIDGE, W. T., *July* 7, 1847.

SUB-INDIAN AGENCY,
Green Bay, July 19, 1847.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: The enclosed document was received by mail since my report in the matter concerning the Stockbridges was forwarded. It may not, probably, be of much consequence, at least so far as the *Stockbridges* are concerned; but, as it is sent to me with that view, I have respectfully to request that it be laid before the Hon. the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with the other papers submitted.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ALBERT G. ELLIS,
U. S. Indian Sub-Agent.

His Excellency HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Madison.

CALUMET COUNTY, }
Wisconsin Territory. }

We, the undersigned, white citizens of said county, do hereby certify that Samuel Stephens, whose vote was rejected in the election of commissioners under the act of 1843, for the partition of the lands, was not a Stockbridge Indian, and that Zeba J. Peters, Thomas S. Branch, and Elisha Konkapot, and Doctor Big Deer, were of enrolled emigrants, and not voters of the Stockbridge tribe, having sold out by the treaty of 1839; that John Killsnake was a British Indian, and not of the Stockbridge tribe; and that Adam King was an Oneida Indian, and, therefore, not a Stockbridge voter.

We also certify that we were present at the election superintended by John S. Horner, register, and that we believe all the proceedings were conducted at that election fairly and honestly, and that we believe all charges of bribery and corruption on the part of John S. Horner were false, and not of the slightest foundation.

JESSE MILLS,
JACOB C. HORN,
JOHN DEAN,
DANIEL H. WHITNEY.

STOCKBRIDGE, W. T., *July* 10, 1847.

A list of lots and parcels of land sold by the Stockbridge Indians, in the county of Calumet, since the 3d of March, 1843; together with the names of the grantors, and also grantees, description of the lands sold, consideration, and date of the deed, are as follows, to wit:

Name of grantor.	Name of grantee.	Description.	Section.	No. of acres.	Consideration.	Date of deed.
Jacob Davids and wife Jerusha	Charles Stephens	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	12	60	$200 00	September 14, 1843
John A. Chicks	Paul D. Hayward	In lots 84 and 83	......	15	175 00	September 28, 1843
Isaac Jacobs and Lucy Jacobs	Alonzo J. Sampson	Bounded	......	20	55 00	October 18, 1843
George F. Bennett	Do	Do	......	$42\frac{1}{2}$	106 25	October 17, 1843
Jacob Davids and wife	George White	Do	......	$62\frac{1}{2}$	135 00	September 21, 1843
John W. Abrams and wife Mariett	Erastus Welch	Lot NE. $\frac{1}{2}$ 68	......	$31\frac{1}{4}$	150 00	November 21, 1843
John N. Chicks and wife Hannah	Joel S. Wright	Lot 159 E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 34	......	105	210 00	January 8, 1844
Charles Stephens	Moody Mann					
John N. Chicks and Hannah Chicks	George Bennett	Lot 103	......	....	100 00	January 6, 1844
John P. Quinney and Sally Quinney	John Moore	Lot 129	......	$62\frac{1}{2}$	100 00	February 5, 1844
Daniel Davids and Margaret Davids	Catharine Mills	Bounded	......	40	80 00	February 12, 1844
John N. Chicks	Daniel Whitney	Lot 24	......	85	297 50	February 21, 1844
Joseph L. Chicks and wife	Do	Lot 118	......	62	} (*)	Do.
Do do	Do	Fraction 122	......	1	}	
Jacob Chicks and wife	Do	Part lot 21	......	5	500 50	Do.
Joseph Manaughe	Do	SE. corner	2	40	} 75 00	Do.
Do	Do	NE. corner	5	20	}	
Harvey Johnson and wife	Do	{ SW. contra SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	3	} 60	75 00	February 22, 1844
		{ N. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	4	}		
Moses Doxtator and wife	Do	Bounded	11	60	75 00	February 21, 1244
John Yoccum and wife	Do	Lot 6	......	68	132 00	Do.
George T. Bennett and wife	John A. Chicks	{ S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 82	} 8 {	$31\frac{1}{4}$	} 100 00	January 6, 1844
		{ S. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$		30	}	
Jesse Mills and wife Catharine	J. P. Drake	Bounded	......	31	62 50	February 26, 1844
John Littleman	Henry Welch	Part S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 56	......	50	150 00	February 22, 1844
Do	Do	Lot 157	......	9	120 75	Do.
Do	George Cook	Part S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 56	......	5	15 00	Do.
Harvey Johnson and wife Scepta	Alexander Price	Bounded	......	10	30 00	March 14, 1844
Isaac Jacobs and wife	John P. Drake	Lot 31	......	66	132 00	March 11, 1844

Name of grantor.	Name of grantee.	Description.	Section.	No. of acres.	Consideration.	Date of deed.
John W. Abrams	Jesse Mills	Lot 130	......	$52\frac{1}{2}$	142 00	April 9, 1844
Isaac Jacobs and wife	John W. Abrams	Lot 155	......	$62\frac{1}{2}$	158 00	March 11, 1844
Jesse Mills	Do	Part lot 58	......	40	165 00	April 9, 1844
George T. Bennett and wife	William D. Colburn	S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 103†	......	$31\frac{1}{4}$	17 86	June 10, 1844
Do do	George H. White	S. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	7	60	50 00	June 8, 1844
	{	Lot 1	......	$43\frac{1}{4}$	}	
Josiah C. Chicks and wife	W. T. Eustis {	Lot 2	......	$47\frac{1}{2}$	} 276 25	February 21, 1844
	{	Lot 106	......	$62\frac{1}{2}$	}	
William Gardner and wife	Do	SW. corner	1	40	}	
Do do	Do	NW. corner	6	70	} 212 50	Do.
Do do	Do	NE. corner, free	{ 3	‡40	}	
			{ 12	20	}	
John N. Chicks	William T. Eustis	Lot 4	......	$58\frac{1}{4}$	}	
Do	Do	Lot 18	......	74 3-100	} 727 70	Do.
Do	Do	Lot 28	......	72 5-100	}	
Timothy Jourdon and wife Priscilla	Do	Lot 112	......	$62\frac{1}{2}$	94 00	Do.
Jacob Davids and wife	Do	Lot 5	......	65 75-100	} 224 00	March 4, 1844
Do do	Do	Lot 128	......	55 100-160	}	
Catharine Butterfield	Daniel Whitney	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	1	60	30 00	Do.
Jeremiah Johnston	Do	Lot 99	......	$62\frac{1}{2}$	62 50	Do.
Timothy Jourdon and wife	Do	Lot 111	......	$62\frac{1}{2}$	62 50	March 15, 1844
Charles Stephens	William T. Eustis	Lots 94, 92, 117†	......	$187\frac{1}{2}$	166 50	January 15, 1844
Harvey Johnson and wife	Charles Chatman	Lot 8	......	74 7-100	32 00	March 15, 1844
J. L. Chicks and wife	Francis Gilbert	Lot 102	......	$62\frac{1}{4}$	62 50	July 1, 1844
John N. Chicks	E. Sherwood	Lot 110†	......	$62\frac{1}{4}$	80 00	June 25, 1844
J. P. Quinney and Sally Quinney	Betsy Manaughe	84	......	5	(§)	April 24, 1844
Do do	Moses E. Merrill	25, 26, and 27	......	$212\frac{1}{2}$	400 00	July 11, 1844
George T. Bennett and Sally Bennett	Francis Gilbert	Lot 103	......	60 50-100	100 00	July 3, 1844
Daniel Davids	Holmes & Allis	Lot 60†	......	$62\frac{1}{2}$	26 00	July 13, 1844
John W. Abrams and wife	John Balwin	Part lot 58	......	$7\frac{1}{2}$	52 50	September 16, 1844
John N. Chicks and wife	Richard Fidler	S. $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 32	......	$3\frac{1}{4}$	67 00	August 31, 1844
W. Gardner and wife	Daniel Butler	Lot 87	......	5	12 00	December 20, 1844
John N. Chicks and wife	J. C. Horne	Lot 29	......	69	145 00	August 23, 1844
Isaac Jacobs	Robert Forbes	Lot 158	......	$62\frac{1}{2}$	130 00	October 14, 1844
J. W. Abrams and wife	Henry Moore	Part lot 124	......	5	15 00	September 16, 1844
A. Turkey and Hannah Turkey	Benjamin Welch	Part lot 41	......	62	125 00	September 25, 1844
John Welch	Jesse Mills	S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 6†	......	57	300 00	January 15, 1844
Jesse Mills	John Welch	Part 136	......	$62\frac{1}{4}$	300 00	October 25, 1844
Hannah Yoccum	William Gardner	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	12	60	30 00	September 21, 1844
Betsey M. Scipio	Adam Sheriff	Part lot 132	......	$31\frac{1}{4}$	95 00	October 7, 1844

* Nothing. † Mortgaged. ‡ About. § For love and good will.

LIST—Continued.

Name of grantor.	Name of grantee.	Description.	Section.	No. of acres.	Consideration.	Date of deed.
Margaret Davids	Edward Howell	S. ¼ E. ½ SW. ¼	5	20	$22 50	November 10, 1844
Do	Do	N. ¼ E. ½ SW. ¼	8	40		
M. Doxtator and J. Doxtator	Do	S. ¼ E. ½ SW. ¼	5	20	22 50	November 14, 1844
J. Doxtator	Do	W. ½ E. ½ NW. ¼	8	(*)		
John N. Chicks	Jesse Mills	SE. ¼ lot 82	......	15 12-100	39 06	December 6, 1844
Joseph Doxtator	Ansel Huntington	NE. ¼ NE. ¼	7	40	76 88	December 2, 1844
Do	Do	SE. ½ SE. ¼	6	20		
Do	Do	Lot 145	......	62½		
John Moore	Daniel Whitney	Lot 105	......	62½	62 50	November 28, 1844
Thomas Skenedor and wife	Do	S. ¾ W. ½ NE. ¼	13	60	75 00	December 26, 1844
James Joshua	Do	Lot 19	......	79 10-100	80 00	October 18, 1844
Peter D. Littleman	Do	E. ½ NW. ¼	......	62½	75 00	December 12, 1844
Aaron Turkey and wife	Erastus Welch	Part lot 65	......	9⅜	44 25	December 6, 1844
Isaac Jacobs and wife	Henry Modlin	Part lot 66	......	50	155 00	October 9, 1844
Joseph Chicks	Nathan Goodell	N. ¾ W. ½ SE. ¼	6	60	30 00	December 23, 1844
Lucy Konkapot	Daniel Whitney	S. ¾ W. ½ SW. ¼	16	60	75 00	December 12, 1844
William Gardner	Daniel Butler	Part lot 87	......	52 51-100	115 00	September 23, 1844
Jacob Davids	Do	Lot 133	......	(*)	50 00	December 20, 1844
John W. Abrams and wife	Morris Francis	Part lot 48	......	2½	15 00	December 16, 1844
John N. Chicks and wife	Nathan Goodell	E. ½ SW. ¼	3	75	93 75	February 14, 1845
Do do	Do	N. ½ lot 82	......	(*)	148 12½	Do.
George T. Bennett and wife	Do	Fraction 86	......	12	36 00	February 15, 1845
Jesse Mills and wife	Do	Bounded	......	15 12-100	60 00	February 18, 1845
P. D. Littleman and wife	Jacob C. Horne	Do	......	12	34 00	February 13, 1845
Unice Abrams, or Quinney	Latson Dick, jr	Lot 52	......	62½	100 00	February 28, 1845
John N. Chicks and wife	Eliph. Mathews	Lot 54	......	20	50 00	July 28, 1845
Jesse Mills and wife	Do	Bounded	......	30	37 50	January 17, 1845
Thomas Schenador and wife	Nathan Goodell	E. ½ NW. ¼	26	62½	38 75	February 26, 1845
Jacob Chicks and wife	Do	Lot 10	......	78	56 00	February 25, 1845
Isaac Simmons	Do	N. ¼ E. ½ SE. ¼	12	40	45 00	March 1, 1845
Betsey Waitt	Margaret Bennett	Bounded	......	12	24 00	February 5, 1845
Charles Scheton and wife	Daniel Whitney	S. ¼ E. ½ NE. ¼ N. ½ E. ½ SE. ¼	12	60	75 00	February 8, 1845
Harvey Johnson and wife	Do	S. ¼ E. ½ SE ¼ N. ¼ E. ½ NE. ¼	5 8	20 40	30 00	January 9, 1845
Aaron Turkey and wife	Do	S. ¾ E. ½ SE. ¼	18	60	75 00	December 23, 1844
Jesse Mills and wife	David Wiggins	Lot 130	......	62½	150 00	May 30, 1844
James Joshua	George T. Bennett	Lots 114, 115	......	125	125 00	March 5, 1845
George Bennett and wife	Nathan Goodell	Lots 114, 115	......	125	250 00	Do.
John N. Chicks and wife	E. Sherwood	Lot 110	......	62½	62 50	November 14, 1844
Jacob Davids and wife	William Gardner	N. ¾ E. ½ NW. ¼	12	60	75 00	March 24, 1845
Daniel Davids	John Baldwin	N. ½ lot 56	......	31¼	50 00	October 3, 1844
Joseph Chicks and wife	Elisha Donslow	N. ½ lot 33	......	56 87-100	300 00	September 25, 1844
Betsey Palmer	Daniel Whitney	N. ¾ E. ½ SW. ¼	13	60	47 00	April 4, 1845
Eliz. Palmer	Do	N. ¾ W. ½ SW. ¼	15	60	47 00	Do.
Thomas Skenedor and wife	Do	S. ¼ E. ½ SW. ¼ E. ¼ S. ½	23 23	60	40 00	March 13, 1845
Benjamin Pye and wife	Do	S. ¼ E. ½ SW. ¼ N. ½ E. ½	18 18	20 40	30 00	Do.
Aaron Turkey and wife	Do	Lot 42	......	50 7-160	95 00	March 12, 1845
Lucretia Davids	Do	N. ¾ W. ½ SW. ¼	5	60	30 00	March 5, 1845
Sarah A. Wilber	Do	S. ¼ W. ½ SW. ¼	2	20	30 00	March 13, 1845
Josiah C. Chicks and wife	Nathan Goodell	W. ½ lot 20	......	45	56 25	April 7, 1845
Daniel M. Metoxen	Elizabeth Palmer	N. ½ lot 75	......	61¼	94 00	March 27, 1845
Isaac Simmons	Nathan Goodell	S. ½ E. ½ SE. ¼	12	40	45 00	April 22, 1845
Do	Do	N. ¼ E. ½ NE. ¼	18	20		
John A. Chicks and wife	Do	N. ½ E. ½ NW. ¼	3	35	93 75	April 23, 1845
Do do	Do	S. ¼ E. ½ SW. ¼	3	35		
Jesse Mills and wife	John N. Chicks	Lot 131	......	62½	300 00	May 8, 1845
Henry Moore and wife	Nathan Goodell	W. ½ SW. ¼	11	40	45 00	April 26, 1826
Do do	Do	N. ¼ W. ½ NW. ¼	14	20		
John N. Chicks and wife	Jesse Mills	Lot 81	......	62½	300 00	May 8, 1845
John W. Quinney	H. E. Eastman	Lot 51	......	58	125 00	May 6, 1845
Do	Oscar Wright	Bounded	......	50½	172 50	June 17, 1845
Do	H. S. Wright	Lot 55	......	5	15 00	June 16, 1845
Peter D. Littleman	Daniel Whitney	S. ¼ W. ½ SE. ¼	13	20	30 00	July 15, 1845
Do	Do	N. ½ W. ½ NE. ¼	18	40		
Timothy Jourdan and wife	Do	E. ½ SW. fraction ¼ E. ½ NE. fraction ¼	9	150	60 00	Do.
Simon Metoxen and wife	Do	S. ½ E. ½ NE. ¼	17	40	30 00	June 6, 1845
Do do	Do	N. ¼ E. ½ SW. ¼	17	20		
John P. Quinney and wife	Do	S. ¼ NE. ½ W. ½ N. ½ E. ½ SW. ¼	12	60	80 00	August 19, 1845

* Number of acres not given.

LIST—Continued.

Name of grantor.	Name of grantee.	Description.	Section.	No. of acres.	Consideration.	Date of deed.
John P. Quinney and wife	Daniel Whitney	S. ¼ E. ½ NW. ¼ N ½ E. ½ SW. ¼	19	60	$80 00	August 19, 1845
John Yoccum and wife	Do	Lot 109	.....	62½	62 50	August 12, 1845
Garret Thompson and wife	Do	N. ¾ W. ½ SW. ¼	24	60	50 00	July 16, 1845
Do do	Do	½ lot 107	.....	62½		
Benjamin Doxtator and wife	Do	N. ¾ W. ½ NW. ½	19	60	30 00	August 19, 1845
Benjamin Pye, sen., and wife	Zebra T. Peters, John Littleman, and John W. Abrams.	Lot 64	.....	½	2 50	August 26, 1845
Josiah Chicks and wife	Daniel Whitney	S. ¼ E. ½ NW. ¼	3	17	20 00	August 18, 1845
Hannah Yoccum	Do	½ lot 111	.....	62½	20 00	August 24, 1845
Simon S. Metoxen and wife	P. D. Hayward	N. ¾ E. ½ SW. ¼	15	49 5-100	35 00	August 5, 1845
Do do	Do	S. ¼ E. 12 SW. ¼	15	16 5-100		
Darias Davids and wife	John N. Chicks	N. ¾ E. ½ SE. ¼	5	60	60 00	September 6, 1845
Benjamin Pye, 4th	Nathan Goodell	S. ¼ W. ½ SW. ¼	13	20	50 00	September 19, 1845
Do	Do	N. ¼ W. ½ NW. ¼	18	40		
Austin E. Quinney and wife	Daniel Butler	Lot 9	.....	62½	102 00	November 3, 1845
John P. Quinney and wife,	James N. Lane	S. ¼ W. ½ NW. ¼ N. ¼ W. ½ SW. ¼	12	20 40	120 00	November 4, 1845
Do do	James Munagg	Bounded lot 84	.....	9	9 00	October 7, 1845
John N. Chicks and wife	Daniel Whitney	N. ¾ E. ½ SE. ¼	5	60	40 00	November 17, 1845
Betsey Scipio	Hannah Marquiss	S. ¼ E. ½ NE. ¼	20	20	30 00	October 14, 1844
Do	Do	N. ½ E. ½ SE. ¼	20	40		
John Wilber and wife	Isaac Jacobs	Lot 151	.....	62½	62 50	July 17, 1844
John W. Abrams and wife	Maria Dana	Part lot 58	.....	6	20 00	July 19, 1845
Jacob Horne and wife	Richard Spencer	Bounded	.....	12	60 00	November 13, 1845
Thomas Skenedor and wife	M. S. Gibson	(*)				
David P. Palmer	Jacob C. Horne	Lot 98	.....	62½	100 00	February 16, 1846
John Wilber	Daniel Whitney	S. ¾ W. ½ SE. ¼	8	60	30 00	February 10, 1836
David P. Palmer	Jacob C. Horne	N. ¾ W. ½ NE. ¼	11	60	55 00	February 16, 1846
John A. Chicks and wife	Adam Sheriff	N. ¼ W. ½ NW. ¼	13	20	34 00	February 21, 1846
Do do	Do	S. ⅛ W. ½ SW. ¼	12	10		
Jesse Mills and wife	Lemuel Goodell	W. ½ lot 81	.....	31	62 50	March 9, 1846
John Moore	Henry Modlin	W. ½ lot 38	.....	50	100 00	March 25, 1846
John W. Abrams and wife	Arnold Rhodes	Part lot 48	.....	27	94 00	March 30, 1846
Daniel Davids and wife	Do	Do	.....	12	33 00	Do.
John Moore and wife	John Moore	Lot 69	.....	62½	300 00	April 13, 1846
John Moore	Do	Lot 9	.....	77 10-100	200 00	Do.
Do	Lewis Bowman	Lot 129	.....	10	40 00	March 9, 1846
John P. Quinney	Joseph Munagg	Part lot 84	.....	1½	4 62½	April 22, 1846
Aaron Turkey and wife, and Benjamin Pye, 3d, and wife	Henry Modlin	Part lot 65	.....	45	180 00	April 23, 1846
William Gardner and wife	Joseph Otis	Sch. lots 2 & 3 in lot 83 Sch. lots 2 & 3 in lot 84	.....	31¼	166 00	December 20, 1845
Jacob Chicks and wife	Cutting Marsh	Sch. lot 1	.....	(†)	40 00	May 20, 1846
Charles Seketon	Rufus S. Bennett	No. ½ frac. lot 4, and bounded	.....	9¼	25 00	April 27, 1846
George T. Bennett and wife	Do	Part lot 113	.....	14	28 00	May 20, 1846
John Littleman and wife	George Bennett	(‡)				
Moses Doxtator and wife	William Scott	S. ½ S. ¾ W. ½ SW. ¼ N. ¾ W. ½ NW. ¼	8 11	30 60	100 00	March 24, 1844
John W. Chicks and wife	Alexander J. Ervin, esq.	W. ½ SW. ¼	8	30	37 50	June 4, 1846
Daniel Davids and wife	John Mathews	Lot 53	.....	66	150 00	November 18, 1843
Daniel Davids	E. G. Ellis	Lot 60*	.....	62½	....	July 13, 1844
John W. Abrams and wife	Nathaniel H. Johnson	Part lot 58	.....	6 9-10	68 00	January 25, 1847
Jesse Mills and Catharine Mills	Ansel Huntington	Lot E. ½ 81	.....	31¼	300 00	February 9, 1847
Peter D. Littleman	Thomas Doxtor	Part lot 127	.....	¼	5 00	December 28, 1846
John P. Quinney and wife	Lemuel Goodell	Bounded	.....	2 5-160	3 75	April 7, 1847
James N. Chicks and wife	Rufus S. Bennett	Lot 131 Bounded as follows: Joining on the east end of the 62½ above described	.....	62½ 30	400 00	February 27, 1847

* Mortgaged. † Number of acres not given. ‡ First description above.

REGISTER'S OFFICE, *Calumet county:*

I, Lewis Fowler, register of deeds for the county of Calumet, hereby certify that the aforegoing is a list of the deeds and of lands sold in the town of Stockbridge, sold by the aforegoing named grantors to the aforegoing grantees, acting under the act of Congress of March 3d, 1843, according to the records of this office. As certified by me this the 5th day of June, 1847.

LEWIS FOWLER,
Register of Deeds for Calumet County, Wisconsin Territory.

A list of tracts or lots of land sold and recorded in this office since the 5th day of June, 1847, are as follows, to wit:

Name of grantor.	Name of grantee.	Section.	Description.	Consider-ation.	No. of acres.	Date of deed.
Rufus S. Bennett and wife	Hannah W. Chicks	......	Lot 113	$30 00	14	April 8, 1847
James Joshua	Daniel Whitney	......	Lot 149	104 50	54 25-100	November 12, 1845
Peter D. Littleman and wife	Do	18	S. ¼ E. ½ SW. ¼	35 00	60	June 5, 1846
Joseph McAllister and wife	Do	11	S. ¼ E. ½ NE. ¼	30 00	20	May 22, 1846
Henry Moore	Do	11	S. ¼ W. ½ SW. ½	30 00	20	May 25, 1846
		11	N. ½ W. ½ SW. ¼		40	
John Moore and wife	Do	2	S. ½ E. ½ SW. ¼	50 00	60	November 17, 1845
		5	N. ¼ E. ½ NW. ¼			
David P. Palmer and wife	Do	......	3-5 of lot 121	75 00	62½	November 13, 1845
Jacob Horne and wife	Do	11	N. ¾ W. ½ NE. ¼	30 00	60	November 9, 1846
David Palmer	Do	10	S. ¼ W. ½ NW. ¼	60 00	120	November 13, 1845
			N. ½ W. ½ SW. ¼			
Do	Do	15	S. ¼ W. ½ SW. ¼			
Do	Do	16	N. ½ W. ½ NW. ¼			
Joseph Chicks and wife	Do	......	Lot 22	130 50	8 75-100	August 4, 1846
Peter D. Littleman and wife	Do	19	S. ½ E. ½ SE. ¼	35 00	40	February 19, 1845
		24	N. ¼ E. ½ NE. ¼		20	

The above is in addition to a similar list taken from the records of this office, and certified by me the 5th of June, 1847; which above list of deeds of land lying in the Stockbridge reserve, and recorded in this office since the list above referred to, was taken from the records of this office, as certified by me at Manchester, this 7th of July, 1847.

LEWIS FOWLER,
Register of Deeds for Calumet County.

G.

STATEMENT

EXHIBITING

The amount of investments for Indian account in State stocks, &c.

G.

Statement exhibiting the amount of investments for Indian account in State stocks, &c.

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.	Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted for application.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
Cherokees	Kentucky	5	$94,000 00		$4,700 00		$94,000 00		Semi-ann'ly	New York	Treasury U. S.	Treaty of Dec., 1835.
Do	Tennessee	5	250,000 00		12,500 00		250,000 00		do	do	do	do.
Do	Alabama	5	300,000 00		15,000 00		300,000 00		do	do	do	do.
Do	Maryland	6	761 39		45 68		880 00		Quarterly	Baltimore	do	do.
Do	Michigan	6	64,000 00		3,840 00		69,120 00		Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	do.
Do (education)	Maryland	5	41,138 00		2,056 90		42,490 00		Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty of February 27, 1819.
Do	Missouri	5½	10,000 00	$759,899 39	550 00	$38,692 58	10,000 00	$766,490 00	Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	do.
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pottawatomies, (mills)	Maryland	6	130,850 43		7,851 02		150,000 00		Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty of Sept., 1833.
Do do	Pennsylva.	5	28,300 00		1,415 00		24,259 50		Semi-ann'ly	Philadelphia	do	do.
Do do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	39,921 93		2,395 31		44,204 40		do	Washington, D. C.	do	do.
Do do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	157 50	199,229 96	7 88	11,669 21	156 00	218,619 90	do	do	do	do.
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pottawatomies, (education)	Indiana	5	68,000 00		3,400 00		72,264 09		do	New York	do	do.
Do do	Pennsylva.	5	8,500 00		425 00		7,352 50		do	Philadelphia	do	do.
Do do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	5,556 71	82,056 71	333 40	4,158 40	6,016 05	85,632 64	do	Washington, D. C.	do	do.
Incompetent Chickasaws	Indiana	5		2,000 00		100 00		2,000 00	do	New York	do	Treaty of May, 1834.
Chickasaw orphans	Arkansas	5	6,000 00		300 00		6,000 00		do	do	do	do.
Do	Pennsylva.	5	1,450 00		72 50		1,254 25		do	Philadelphia	do	do.
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	433 68	7,883 68	26 02	398 52	508 01	7,762 26	do	Washington.	do	do.
Shawnees	Maryland	6	29,341 50		1,760 49		33,912 40		Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty of Aug., 1831.
Do	Kentucky	5	1,000 00		50 00		980 00		Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	do.
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	1,734 71	32,076 21	104 08	1,914 57	2,032 03	36,924 43	do	Washington.	do	do.
Senecas	Kentucky	5		5,000 00		250 00		4,900 00	do	New York	do	Treaty of Feb., 1831.
Senecas and Shawnees	Do	5	6,000 00		300 00		5,880 00		do	do	do	do.
Do do	Missouri	5½	7,000 00	13,000 00	385 00	685 00	7,121 87	13,001 87	do	do	do	do.
Kansas schools	Missouri	5½	18,000 00		990 00		18,000 00		do	do	do	Treaty of June, 1825.
Do	Pennsylva.	5	2,000 00		100 00		1,730 00		do	Philadelphia	do	do.
Do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	2,700 00		135 00		2,727 27		do	Washington.	do	do.
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	4,444 66	27,144 66	266 67	1,491 67	5,026 30	27,483 57	do	do	do	do.
Menomonies	Kentucky	5	77,000 00		3,850 00		75,460 00		do	New York	do	Treaty of Sept., 1836.
Do	Pennsylva.	5	12,000 00		600 00		10,235 00		do	Philadelphia	do	do.
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	26,114 88	115,114 88	1,566 89	6,016 89	29,604 48	115,299 48	do	Washington.	do	do.

G—Continued.

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.	Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted for application.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
Chippewas & Ottowas..	Kentucky ..	5	$77,000 00	....	$3,850 00	....	$75,460 00	....	Semi-ann'ly.	New York..	Treasury U. S.	Treaty of Mar., 1836
Do do ..	Michigan ..	6	3,000 00	....	180 00	....	3,000 00	....	do	do	do	do.
Do do ..	Pennsylva..	5	16,200 00	....	810 00	....	13,912 50	....	do	Philadelphia	do	do.
Do do ..	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	5,387 87	....	269 39	....	5,426 46	....	do	Washington	do	do.
Do do ..	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	16,588 97	$118,176 84	995 34	$6,104 73	18,183 30	$115,982 26	do	do	do	do.
Creek orphans	Alabama ..	5	82,000 00	....	4,100 00	....	82,000 00	....	do	New York..	do	Treaty of June, 1832
Do	Missouri ...	5½	28,000 00	....	1,540 00	....	28,487 48	....	do	do	do	do.
Do	Pennsylva..	5	16,000 00	....	800 00	....	13,840 00	....	do	Philadelphia	do	do.
Do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	13,700 00	....	685 00	....	13,840 00	....	do	Washington	do	do.
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	23,513 40	163,213 40	1,410 80	8,535 80	26,656 04	64,823 52	do	do	do	do.
Choctaws, under convention with the Chickasaws.	Alabama...	5	....	500,000 00	....	25,000 00	....	500,000 00	do	New Orleans	do	Treaty of January 17, 1837.
Delawares, (education).	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	....	7,806 28	....	468 38	....	9,144 27	do	Washington, D. C.	do	Treaty of 1838.
Osages, (education)....	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	7,400 00	....	370 00	....	7,474 74	....	do	do	do	Treaty of 1825.
Do do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	24,679 56	32,079 56	1,480 77	1,850 77	27,656 76	35,131 50	do	do	do	do.
Choctaw orphans.......	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	26,387 44	....	1,583 24	....	30,461 70	....	do	do	do	Treaty of Sept., 1830.
Do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	23,109 09	49,496 53	1,155 45	2,738 69	23,312 16	53,773 86	do	do	do	do.
Stockbridge & Munsees.	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	....	5,204 16	....	312 25	....	6,096 16	do	do	do	Treaty of May, 1840.
Choctaws, (education).	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	60,893 62	....	3,653 61	....	68,236 73	....	do	do	do	Treaty of Sept., 1830.
Do do .	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	1,545 44	62,439 06	77 27	3,730 88	1,530 00	69,766 73	do	do	do	do.
				2,181,821 32	....	114,118 34		2,232,832 45				

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
September 30, 1847.

H.

Statement exhibiting the annual interest appropriated by Congress to pay the following tribes of Indians, in lieu of investing the sum of money provided by treaties and laws in Stocks.

Names of tribes.	Amount provided by treaty for investment.	Rate per cent.	Amount of interest annually appropriated.	Authority by which made.
Delawares	$46,080	5	$2,304	Treaty September 29, 1829.
Chippewas and Ottowas	200,000	6	12,000	Resolution of Senate, May 27, 1836.
Sioux of Mississippi	300,000	5	15,000	Treaty September 29, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri	175,400	5	8,770	Treaty October 21, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi	1,000,000	5	50,000	Treaties October 21, 1837, and Oct. 11, 1842.
Winnebagoes	1,185,000	5	59,250	Treaties Nov. 1, 1837, and Oct. 13, 1846.
Iowas	157,500	5	7,875	Resolution of Senate, January 19, 1838.
Osages	69,120	5	3,456	Do. do.
Creeks	350,000	5	17,500	Treaty November 23, 1838.
Senecas of New York	75,000	5	3,750	Treaty May 20, 1842, and law of Congress June 27, 1846.
Kansas	200,000	5	10,000	Treaty January 14, 1846.
Pottawatomies	643,000	5	32,150	Treaty June 5, 1846.
Choctaws	872,000	5	43,600	Treaty September 27, 1830, and laws of 1842 and 1845.
	5,273,100		265,655	

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS, *September* 30, 1847.

No. 1.

OFFICE ACTING SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Detroit, November 20, 1847.

SIR: My absence and engagements upon official duties, and attending the payment of annuities to the several tribes of Indians within this district, and that of Wisconsin, renders the transmission of my annual report thus late.

The general condition of the Indians within the Mackinac agency, is as comfortable, and their improvement as rapid, as can be expected, under the embarrassments consequent from (and the increase of the white population in their vicinity) the scattered condition of the bands.

It is greatly to be desired that some arrangement be made for collecting the dispersed families into colonies or larger settlements, where they may receive the full benefit of the teachers, mechanics, and farmers, who are provided for their improvement.

Those who are located near the schools and missions are progressing, while those remote, or who but seldom come within their influences, are making no advancement. The farmers and mechanics afford much aid to those near at hand, but can be of little service where their labors are extended to different localities, requiring much time in making preparations, and in travelling from place to place.

The Ottowa, Griswold, and Black river (Old Wing) colonies have each fine tracts of land, and by the aid of the farmers and teachers, have made some improvement and advancement towards civilization. Their progress, however, is likely to be interrupted by the appearance of white settlers who are surrounding them, a fact which has always operated disastrously to their welfare.

The missionaries labor hard, and those employed to aid them make great efforts to retain them and to keep proper influences in operation, but they are perplexed with difficulties arising from the contiguity of the white population.

About nine hundred of the Ottowa Indians reside in the valley of the Grand river, and on the streams emptying into it; and are without any aid from schools, carpenters, or farmers. The smith's shop at the mouth of "Thorne Apple," is of service to them in repairing guns and traps, and the few who have land and cultivate it, procure utensils necessary for their labors.

Those situated upon the Muskegon, White Pear, Marquette, and Manestee rivers, are in a worse condition, being too remote from the smith's shop to be profited by it.

All of them would be much improved by gathering together in two or three communities upon locations to be selected between the Muskegon river and Mackinac, which would be adapted to their condition, affording them room and grounds for hunting and agriculture, waters for communication and fishing, and a climate healthy and congenial to their constitution.

They would then be so situated as to receive instruction from

those provided to aid them, and the plan would readily be adopted by them if sanctioned and proposed by the government.

The means which are now scattered, to but little use, would render all recipients of its benefits and schools; agriculture, mechanics, and general improvements would be encouraged amongst them.

They are greatly distressed from fear of their removal west, and have but little courage to make improvements, or receive instruction, while they are upon lands not their own, and with the prospect of removal continually before them.

The bands residing at Grand Traverse, Scheboygan, and Little Traverse, have purchased lands, and, with the aid of the mechanics and farmers, have erected substantial and comfortable dwellings, improved their lands, and from their fields, hunting and fishing, provide abundantly the necessities of life.

Those inhabiting the islands and north shore of the straits of Mackinac and Lake Michigan, obtain their subsistence mostly from hunting and fishing; and although a few attend the Catholic school, and are engaged in agriculture to a small extent, their condition is not as comfortable as those residing at the points first mentioned.

The Chippewas at Saginaw still continue to improve in agriculture and morals, and this is mainly attributable to their disuse of whiskey.

Although they are in detached settlements, yet, having teams and farming implements at most of the points, the overseer of farming is enabled to do them much good, by his frequent visits among them.

It is difficult for him to visit all of them without the use of a boat, and the Indians have requested that one be furnished for the purpose, and that it be considered as a part of the appropriation for their agricultural purposes. It would, doubtless, be of great convenience and aid in the discharge of his duties.

The teachers and missionaries are zealously engaged in leading them in the way of improvement, and are doing much to save them from the destructive influence of drink.

The Pottowatomies of Huron continue to reside upon the land purchased two years ago; have increased in numbers, and have made some excellent improvements; have a school and preaching among them.

The Pottowatomies at Pokagon are under the care of the Catholic missionary and teachers, and are generally sober and peaceful. With the exception of the prevalence of the small-pox during the last winter among a few of the bands, they have generally enjoyed good health, more especially when they have refrained from intoxicating drinks.

For information in regard to the condition of the Indians within the Sault Ste. Marie sub-agency, I respectfully refer you to the report of James Ord, esq., herewith, and those of the missionary teachers and others, whose duties have been discharged among them.

The several bands of this sub-agency would be more happy and prosperous if located upon the south shore of Lake Superior, where

they would be more secluded from the whites, and where the teachers and mechanics could better aid them in the work of improvement.

A large amount of work has been performed at the smith's shops during the past year, and the farmers have generally succeeded in raising good crops. The schools are well attended as usual, and the results in each department as satisfactory as may be expected under the present system and scattered state of the Indians.

The subject of the debt fund held by the government, was again brought to my notice by the Ottowas and Chippewas in council, and a request made that I should present the subject to their great father at Washington, and urge upon him the importance and justice of having such disposition made of the matter as would relieve them from embarrassment, and secure to them their lands and improvements for their permanent homes.

They urge, and with good reason, that, so long as this fund is unapplied, the traders will continue to make credits, and induce the Indians to trade, in the hope that ultimately it will be adjusted from this source; and soon the whole will be absorbed, leaving nothing to purchase lands and make improvements as they now desire.

The division of the annuity of 1836, and the proposition of semi-annual payments, does not meet with favor among them. It is attended with a loss of time and expense in attending payments, as many have to make long and tedious journeys, and in the spring time, after the season of sugar-making, they should be engaged in preparing and planting their fields.

As a general thing, these Indians are as comfortable in the spring as any other season; they have the avails of their winter hunt and sugar season to depend upon.

After the next spring payment, they desire that one only per annum should be made.

The matter of the reserve at Sault Ste. Marie is assuming more importance since my last report. The legislature of Michigan have incorporated a company for the construction of a canal, the route of which crosses the reserve; and I am informed the work will be undertaken next season. Some settlement should be made satisfactory to the Indians before any commencement of said work.

I have frequent application for aid in sending Indian boys abroad, that they may receive advantages at academies and seminaries. The establishment of the right kind of schools, where manual agriculture and mechanic instruction should accompany that in letters, would afford them advantages of this kind at home.

The amount expended yearly is abundant for this purpose, but it is so divided, owing to the scattered state of the Indians, that its benefits are comparatively small. Several young men are now abroad, supported by the charity of societies and individuals, and more are seeking opportunities for like advantages. Shall they be denied when the means are ample, if properly applied?

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following reports:

No. 1. James Ord, esq., sub-agent, Sault Ste. Marie.
No. 2. P. Paul Lefevre, bishop, report school and mission.
No. 3. Rev. Abel Bingham, school and mission.
No. 4. Rev. W. H. Brockway, do do
No. 5. Rev. P. Dougherty, do do
No. 6. Rev. George N. Smith, do do
No. 7. Rev. Leonard Slater, do do

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

WM. A. RICHMOND,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

To Hon. WM. MEDILL,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington City, D. C.

No. 2.

SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN,
October 20, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the condition of the Indians of this sub-agency, during the year, has improved, especially of those on Lake Superior.

At the Ance Kewewena, they have raised abundant crops of potatoes: it is said they will have a large quantity for sale. With their oxen, of which they have two yokes, they have done much towards clearing spots of gardens. Their stock of cows and hogs have increased considerably. These means of supply and comforts which these Indians possess, and are seeking to augment, have been promoted by the exertions of the missionaries and the government operatives who are with them, and who have been active in preventing the introduction of whiskey at the Ance.

The Indians are laudably exerting themselves to prevent its introduction; they have recently destroyed a keg of whiskey which had been brought amongst them by some Indians from Lake View Deserts.

At the Sault they have also an unusual supply of potatoes. The fish taken at the falls, and at their other fishing places, enabled them to support, during the summer, their families, notwithstanding the high prices of provisions.

Sickness has been prevalent amongst them: the number of deaths, however, has not exceeded that of last year.

They appear anxious to put up houses for themselves, and the logs and barks for several have been got out; they have been, however, unable to get plank and nails to complete them.

The Sault band have sold not less than 400 barrels of fish; last spring they made about 8,000 pounds of maple sugar. The turnips, pumpkins, and corn, gathered this fall, have been as abundant as at any previous season.

Their hunts have not been very successful in consequence of the decrease of game.

Some families of the Sault band, and those of Drummond Island, went, the latter part of July, to the Manitou line Island to receive the annual presents of the British government. I learn that all who were there from the United States received presents. Those who went from this sub-agency were induced to do so by the persuasion of the band resident on the Canada side of the Sault.

Although the sale of liquor has been carried on at the Sault to a great extent, no instance of personal violence amongst the Indians has occurred.

As long as the Indians live at or near the Sault, the efforts of the missionaries, by temperance pledges, and other means to prevent intoxication amongst them, will prove fruitless.

The missionary schools at the Sault have been conducted with constant care and attention on the part of the teachers.

At the quarterly examination of the scholars, under the supervision of the Rev. Abel Bingham, they gave proofs of application and improvement.

At the examination of the scholars, under the supervision of the Rev. Wm. H. Brockway, the children answered with an eagerness and readiness expressive of their desire to learn and of application to their studies.

For the details in regard to this school, I have respectfully to refer to the reports of the Rev. A. Bingham, numbered 4, and of Rev. Wm. H. Brockway, numbered 5, enclosed herewith.

The school of the Rev. Frederick Baraga, at the Ance Kewewena, is, I learn, constantly attended by about 60 scholars. No report has been received from Mr. Baraga.

The Rev. Mr. Peitzel's school is well and regularly kept—in it not less than 20 children are taught.

The reports of the carpenter and blacksmith, at the Ance Kewewena, evince that their services have contributed much to the improvement and welfare of Indians at that place.

No detailed report has been received from the farmer. The foregoing is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES ORD.

Wm. A. Richmond, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Detroit, Michigan.

No. 3.

Superintendency Indian Affairs for Wisconsin Territory,
Madison, October, 21, 1847.

Sir: In accordance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I submit my annual report of the state and condition of the Indians, accompanied with an estimate of the appropriations necessary to enable the Department to comply with the stipulations of existing treaties with the tribes at present residing in this superintendency. The annual reports of the sub-Indian agents for the

Green Bay and Lapointe sub-agencies are herewith enclosed, with their accompanying documents.

From the report of the sub-agent of the Green Bay sub-agency, it appears that the Oneida Indians have become good farmers and tillers of the soil; that the schools established for the tuition of their children are doing much good for their advancement and civilization, and that these Indians have attached themselves to the different religious churches established in their country. The Stockbridge Indians are placed in a most unpleasant condition. The citizen party adhere to the act of Congress of 1843, providing for them the rights of citizenship; the Indian party protest against the act of 1843, and adhere to that of 1846, repealing the former and restoring the tribe to its ancient privileges. It appears to me that the proper policy of the government would be to purchase the country remaining to the Indian party, and removing them south of the Missouri river or west of the Mississippi. A portion of the Stockbridge people living as citizens, and a part of them as savages, will produce a most unpleasant state of feeling, and the sooner they are separated the better for both parties. The citizen party will be under the protection of our laws, while the Indian party will be surrounded by the white settlements, and will be placed in a most deplorable and hopeless condition.

The Menomonie Indians.

There have been no changes in the state and condition of this tribe since my last annual report. From the report of the sub-agent, it appears that there are two classes among this tribe; one that follows the chase, (the greater proportion of the tribe,) and a farming band that is increasing in numbers. In my former annual reports, I have expressed my views fully as to the propriety of extinguishing the Indian title to the whole of the Menomonie country, and removing them south of the Missouri or west of the Mississippi river. Should the United States hold a treaty with the Menomonies for their country, and they should retain a part of the country for a future home, they would probably in a few years be surrounded by our advancing settlements, which would place them, with their present love of ardent spirits, in a most degraded state, and this remnant of a once powerful tribe of Indians would soon disappear. The humane policy of the government in removing the Indians from the east of the Mississippi to the country assigned them west of the States of Missouri and Arkansas, is surely the proper one. It has been the means of saving the lives of thousands, and has placed them where they can become agriculturists and stock raisers, and where they will be gradually withdrawn from the chase and their wandering habits of life.

Should the Menomonie Indians be unwilling to remove south of the Missouri river, a purchase of a country of sufficient extent could, no doubt, be made from the Sioux Indians, bordering on the Mississippi or Saint Peters' rivers. The utmost harmony and good

feeling has heretofore existed between the Sioux and Menomonie Indians.

The difficulty in making a treaty with this tribe of Indians, I have heretofore presented fully to your Department. The northern portion of the territory is settling rapidly in the direction of the Fox river, and a part of the Menomonie country is much wanted now for settlement, particularly that portion of it between the mouth of the Wolf river and the portage of the Wisconsin and Fox rivers, and bordering on the Wisconsin river, in the direction to the Plover portage.

The Chippewa Indians.

No material change has taken place in the state and condition of this tribe since my last annual report. The late treaty held with the Leach Lake band, for the extinguishment of the Indian title to a large extent of the Chippewa country, if approved by the President and ratified by the Senate, will be productive of much good. It will increase the amount of the annuities paid the Chippewas—upon which they place great reliance—and will place them more under the control of the agents of the government, who have heretofore exercised but a limited influence over them.

From the reports of the sub-agent, it appears that the Chippewas are improved in their agricultural pursuits, and that their condition is better than it was four years ago.

Could the whole of the Chippewas be removed west of the Mississippi, where they would be out of the reach of the advancing settlements, it would be the means, to a certain extent, of placing them out of the reach of whiskey sellers, who are more destructive to the Chippewas than their enemies when in a state of war. The Chippewa that killed the white man on the St. Croix was tried and discharged by the court in St. Croix county. From the report of the sub-agent, it appears that, in returning from the annuity payment, some of the Chippewas met with whiskey dealers, and, when in a state of intoxication, commenced a fire on the whites, and wounded several of them without killing any person.

The Chippewas appear to be on friendly terms with the Sioux and other Indians. From the present state of our Indian relations on the Upper Mississippi, the establishment of a military post is of the first importance, to maintain peace between the several nations of Indians, and to prevent the introduction of ardent spirits into the Indian country.

My views on that subject have been fully submitted to your Department in a communication I had the honor to make a short time since. From the great emigration to the St. Croix and Chippewa country, to which the Indian title has been extinguished, it would seem that the attention of the government should be directed to that interesting portion of our territory.

From the report of the sub-agent, it appears that the small-pox had made its appearance in one of the bands of the Upper Wisconsin river last winter, but had not extended its ravages beyond that

band. It appears that a part of the Chippewas that attended the late annuity payment were vaccinated for the small-pox. I fully concur with the sub-agent in recommending to your Department the propriety of having the whole tribe vaccinated at the expense of the United States.

HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

Hon. W. Medill,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 4.

Lapointe Sub-Agency, *September* 15, 1847.

Sir: The annual payment of the Chippewas of the Mississippi and Lake Superior was concluded on 3d instant, to the entire satisfaction, so far as I have learned, of all concerned. The Indians did not assemble in as large numbers as usual, which is to be attributed to the fact that much sickness has prevailed, and still prevails, throughout the nation. The general reply of the Indians when asked why more of their number had not come to payment, was, that they had staid at home to take care of the sick. The disease which affects them at this time is of a bilious character, and is not generally fatal. The small pox broke out among the Indians of the Wisconsin river band last winter, and great fears were entertained that it would from thence be communicated to the whole tribe. About eighteen fatal cases occurred, but providentially its ravages extended no further than the band in which it first made its appearance. Mrs. E. F. Ely, one of the missionaries connected with the American board of commissioners for foreign missions at this place, was busily employed during the payment, and vaccinated the greater number of those present. The Indians are, with good reason, very much afraid of the small pox, and very anxious to be vaccinated. I respectfully recommend that the Department will provide means to have the operation performed on every individual of the tribe; which can be done within the year, on all who visit this place, at a very trifling expense. The expense at farthest will not exceed fifty or sixty dollars.

The relation of the Chippewas with other tribes have been amicable, as a general thing, during the year; the only difficulties which have occurred have been between individuals. A white man was killed by an Indian of Saint Croix last winter; the circumstances attending I had the honor to report at the time, as I was on the spot soon after the occurrence. The Indian was delivered to the authorities of Saint Croix county. He had his trial at the May term of Saint Croix county court, and was acquitted on the ground of self-defence.

A difficulty occurred on Sunday, 5th instant, between several whites and Indians, which, as it will doubtless go forth to the world as an Indian outrage, it will be necessary to mention. Several men

in a boat overtook the Indians of the Wisconsin river and Pelican lake bands, who were on their way home from the payment, at the mouth of Bad river, and sold them whiskey. On the morning of the 5th, the Indians, not yet recovered from their last night's debauch, demanded more liquor, which being refused them, on the plea that it was all gone, they attempted to search the boat. One of the Indians sprang on the boat and was immediately knocked into the river, by one of the whites, with a clubbed rifle. The whites shoved off their boats, and the Indians seized their guns and fired after them. The only serious injury inflicted was upon one man, who, it appears, was a passenger on board the boat, and received a ball which lodged in his right arm, near the elbow; several others received a pigeon-shot or two in their bodies. This is the first instance of an Indian raising his hand against a white man on Lake Superior, which has ever come within my knowledge; but it is no more than I would expect under the circumstances. If men will pursue this traffic, they must look for such results, and have no right to complain or receive sympathy. The Chippewas as individuals, and as a nation, are well disposed, and will continue to be so as long as the cupidity and heartlessness of the whiskey dealer will permit. I fear that, in our accounts of outrages and crime, we have done the Chippewas, if no other tribe, injustice in many cases; for I find on comparing them with almost any civilized community of the same size, for four years, there will be found the smaller aggregate of crime on the part of the savage; and every crime of any magnitude which has been committed may be traced to the influence of the white man.

More liquor has been sold at this place during the last payment than in any former year; and such have become the facilities for its introduction, that the impossibility of preventing it entirely is reduced to a certainty. We had a small detachment of soldiers here during the payment, but I find that they are but of little use, as far as the prevention of the sale or the introduction of liquor is concerned, as the sight of a soldier is evidence of danger to a whiskey pedlar, and he is of course on his guard. One resolute, authorized man, having no other business to attend to, will do more to prevent it than a regiment of troops. The crew of one of the vessels which lay in our harbor during the payment, aided by a number of other persons, set at defiance our military force, and refused to permit her to be searched. The circumstances I had the honor to report in my respects of the 24th ultimo; it will not therefore be necessary to revert to them here. The greater part of the liquor sold was in pint bottles, which were carried in the pockets of those who disposed of them, and detection, to say the least, was difficult. We succeeded in destroying about ten barrels of whiskey, including barrels, kegs, demijohns and bottles.

I was informed some time since that the two Chippewas so long confined as hostages at Fort Snelling, had been set at liberty; this was an act of justice. There appeared to be no disposition among the chiefs of the Chippewas to do anything towards effecting the delivery of the real murderers, and no good could result from any

longer confinement of those who had been delivered. When at Fort Snelling last winter, I had a conversation with the commanding officer respecting the propriety of sending a military force to Leach lake to demand the delivery of the murderers, or, in default of their delivery, to bring down the chiefs who had signed the treaty of peace; but as one company of his command had left a short time before, and the garrison was weak, he did not think it prudent to send so small a force as he would be able to spare so far into the Indian country. I think it was an oversight in the treaty between the two tribes to bring within its provisions bands so far distant, who received no annuities, and were in a measure beyond the reach of the agents of the government. When the late treaty, which I am informed has been concluded with the "Pillagers," goes into effect, they will be more under control. The annuities of a tribe or band is the strongest hold which the government has upon them.

What effect the release of the hostages will have on the peaceful relations of the tribes, remains to be shown. I apprehend nothing from it, further than private revenge by some of the relatives of the murdered man. No treaty can be made between these two tribes which will prevent private murder and outrage; for, among the Chippewas at least, these is no principal chief—no tribunal before which an offender can be brought to answer. Each band has its own chief, whose name stands at its head on the pay-roll, and through whom, as a general thing, communications are made to the government and its agents; but any power or authority he may possess by right of place over any other Indian, is nominal.

While on this subject I beg leave to suggest that the sending of a small military force into the Indian country, on any occasion, is productive of evil effects on the minds of the Indians—the authority of the agent, unaided, is much better than a small force. The Indians are quick observers; and, in the latter case, conclude at once that coercion of some kind is intended, and the force should be large enough to carry out the intention to the full extent, and to avoid even the possibility of failure.

The prospects of the Indians for the ensuing winter are as promising as on any former year. Advices from inland represent the rice crop as plentiful, and, as many Indians remained at home, there will be no lack of assistance to collect it. The reports of the farmers which I enclose, numbered 1, 2, and 3, give promise of a sufficient supply of potatoes, &c., for the wants of the Indians within their reach. With the annuities and other assistance received from government, and the least exertion on their own part, there is nothing to prevent the Chippewas from living in (to them) a comfortable manner.

In speaking of improvements among the Indian tribes, I have perceived that writers are prone to express themselves in such a manner as to mislead the public and make it believe, on the one hand, that the Indians are much farther advanced in the social scale than they really are, or, on the other, that they are much lower than a fair representation of facts would place them; and moreover, the public is too much given to expect that results which must, with

the best success for which we have any reason to hope, occupy the patient labor of the Department for years, shall be crowded into the short space of one. Much error is scattered respecting the character, condition, &c., of the Indians, by the remarks of those who visit their country for the first time and obtain, at most, but a glimpse of their state and manner of life. As it strikes at first view, favorable or unfavorable, such is the report. One writer will describe an Indian tribe as possessing all that is noble and exalted, while another will scarce admit them on equality with the higher order of brutes. This I wish, if possible, to avoid; and when speaking of improvement among the Chippawas, do not wish to convey the idea that, as a general thing, there is any near approach to the white man's life, or the white man's ways, for such a result is yet far distant; but that a great improvement has occurred in all their relations no one who has watched their progress for even the few years that it has been my duty so to do, can for one moment doubt.

They plant to thrice the extent, and are yearly increasing the amount; and men who, four years ago, would have considered it a lasting disgrace to perform any kind of agricultural labor, now lay hold manfully and consider it highly honorable. They are fast abandoning the principal of a community of property, and each man begins to feel that his business is to provide for his own family, and to make provision in time. They have abandoned, to a considerable extent, the ceremonies and practice of their heathen worship and heathen creed; and, although they may practice it, acknowledge the truth and superiority of the white man's religion, many of them have adopted, in whole or in part, the dress of civilized men, and live, so far as their circumstances will admit, in a civilized manner.

I enclose (numbered 4) reports from Rev. Sherman Hall, respecting the condition of the schools under his charge, as superintendent of missions for the American board of commissioners for foreign missions. This board have had two schools and employed three teachers during the year. From the teachers of the schools at Fond du Lac and Sandy Lake, I have received no reports; from my knowledge of the Indians at the latter place, I should suppose but little had been effected. Mr. E. H. Day continued his school at Fond du Lac up to June of the present year, at which time he left for the East, and has not yet returned. I presume the school was discontinued on his departure.

My opinion with regard to the application of the school fund remains unaltered from last year. I consider the plan, as proposed, of a small manual labor boarding school as the only one calculated to benefit the Indians, to the extent contemplated by the Department. The success which has attended the schools at present in operation has been produced by unwearied exertions against the apathy of parents, disinclination and actual inability of the children to attend during the greater part of the year. When the treaty of Fond du Lac (1847) goes into operation, there will be, if I am rightly informed, an addition to the school fund, which will make

it sufficiently large to sustain a boarding school such as contemplated. If it be necessary that the amount provided by the treaty should be expended on the Mississippi, the amount under the treaty of 1842 can be added to it, and the school be established there.

I also beg leave again to mention that the benefits received from the employment of a carpenter, do not amount to the value of the money expended. If the money, instead of being sent under the head of carpenters, could be placed in the hands of the agent to be expended in building houses, &c., it would be much better, as one man can do but little towards erecting the log-houses, such as are built. I presume this change could be effected by the consent of the Department, at the request of the Indians.

The circular requiring statistical information, &c., was not received by me till our census roll for payment was almost completed; and I found it impossible to detain the Indians long enough to perform the duty at that time. I have, however, commenced it, and hope to be able to render the proper information by the time stated.

Our annuity goods of this year were all of a superior quality. Some slight alterations will be necessary in the invoices for next year, which I have noted in the list enclosed, (No. 5.)

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES P. HAYS,
U. S. Sub-Agent.

To his Excellency HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Madison, W. T.

No. 5.

GREEN BAY SUB-INDIAN AGENCY,
September 30, 1847.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: Since my last annual report few changes have taken place in this sub-agency.

The *Oneidas* are quietly, steadily advancing in all the essentials of civilization, except with the first Christian party, for the want of an English school. They cultivate with good taste and great perseverance pretty extensive farms, cleared up from very heavy timber lands; from which they derive ample means of support, independent of the chase, which they have in fact nearly abandoned. They live in good log and framed houses, well furnished, and have abundance of stock, cattle, horses, and farming utensils.

The first Christian party have a neat, commodious church, opened every Sunday by their missionary, which they generally attend; the worship being the Protestant Episcopal.

For the condition of the school at this time, I respectfully refer to the report of the Rev. Mr. Davis, herewith submitted.

The school of the *Orchard party*, in charge of the Rev. Mr. Lathrop, of the Methodist Episcopal church, is kept in the English language; the teacher, like others of this sub-agency, is under con-

tract, and returns to this office, registers, monthly, of the attendance of the scholars, from which the abstract is derived in the statement of the schools accompanying this report. The Orchard party is deriving essential benefit from this school, as is instanced in their general intelligence and advancement.

The Oneidas are not disposed to sell nor remove; and of late none are desirous of going to Missouri.

The *Stockbridges* remain much as heretofore. They are a civilized people—speaking, reading, and writing the English language, dressing in our costume, and living entirely from agriculture. They are sober, industrious, moral, and generally intelligent. They are mainly indebted for their improved condition to the conjoined efforts of the government with those of the American Board of Foreign Missions, under the immediate superintendence of the Rev. *Cutting Marsh*, for many years their able, faithful missionary.

There has been an unfortunate struggle between parties in this tribe, apparently about citizenship, but really for power and authority between rival chiefs and head-men. One party adheres to the act of Congress of 1843, providing for their naturalization as citizens; the other protests against the act of 1843, and adheres to that of 1846, repealing the former, and restoring the tribe to its ancient priveleges. These matters had produced no little ill-feeling; but for the last few months it has in a good degree, subsided, and the parties are comparatively quiet. Their schools are in a prosperous condition, and have an important influence in forming the civil and moral character of the tribe.

The *Brothertowns* have laid aside entirely their character as an Indian tribe—having become citizens of the United States.. The only cognizance this agency has of them is a supervision of the expenditure of the fund for educational purposes. Their two schools are well organized, and eminently useful.

The *Menomonies*.—But little change is to be noted in this tribe within the year. They consist of two classes—the *hunting bands* and the *farming band*. The former still comprises a large proportion of the whole tribe, though the latter is daily increasing in numbers. The tribe is gradually becoming sensible of the superior advantages of civilization, and will, in a few years, imitate the example of their neighbors, the New York Indians, and abandon the chase.

A portion of the hunting bands still linger on the ceded lands along the shores of Green Bay and along its tributaries, on account of the sturgeon fisheries, from which they derive their main support. The head chief of one of those bands, with a few of his warriors, lately paid a visit of ceremony to the Oneidas, at Duck creek, with a special view to see for himself, "*how Indians could live on farms*." The Oneida chiefs received him courteously; gave him and his warriors a sumptuous dinner, and exhibited to him their farms, houses, barn, stock, utensils, &c., &c. The Menomonie chief retired evidently pleased and favorably impressed with the improved condition and independent style of living of his New York brothers, the Oneidas. Notwithstanding many of the Menom-

onies are opposed to any change in their mode of life, and view that of farming with distrust, yet it is apparent that these prejudices are fast giving way, and that numbers of them will very soon join the farming band.

The stock-cattle and farming utensils delivered to them annually under treaty stipulations, are highly prized and eagerly sought. At the coming annuity payment, a quantity of seed wheat will be delivered them by their own request.

There is a very serious drawback on the farming operations at lake Pah-way-hi-keen, in the unsuitableness of their present location; which is, along the border of that lake, low, wet, but destitute of running water, and very unhealthy. No less than fifty-four deaths have occurred at that village within the past twelve months. To further the humane policy of the government (and the wishes of their intelligent missionary, Rev. F. J. Bondurel,) for their advancement in agriculture, education, and Christianity, there should be a treaty with the Memomonies for a cession of the greater portion of their lands; a suitable reservation set off for their future homes for agricultural purposes, and provision made for the support of the schools, for building them a mill, and for furnishing them agricultural implements, seed, cattle, &c. A majority of the chiefs are already desirous of such an arrangement, on which basis I have no doubt a treaty could be made.

I have the satisfaction to report this year, that, since September last, there have been two schools, bona fide, kept regularly in the *English language*, among the Menomonies at Lake Pah-way-hi-keen—one by the Rev. F. J. Bondurel (before mentioned) for boys, and the other by Mrs. Rosaline Dousman for girls; and I cannot speak too highly of the constancy and self-denial of those worthy persons in their labors for these people. Several of the Menomonie youths can now read and write easy lessons in English. I beg leave here to give an extract from one of the Rev. Mr. Bondurel's letters to me, dated 13th September, instant, as follows, to wit:

"The pupils of both schools have made more progress in their studies than I really anticipated. It is highly gratifying to think that our hopes have been fully realized, notwithstanding the many difficulties that have been thrown in our way. * * * All the scholars of the first and second class write with a degree of taste that promises much for the future. The pupils of the first class and four of the second, read passably well. I have introduced English singing into the schools—nothing could please the pupils so much as this. I assure you, sir, they play their part pretty well! All the Indians are pleased, above anything I could express, to see that their children read, write, and sing *just as well* (so they say) as the Yankees do! It is not my province to trace out in this place the progress that the junior part of this mission has made in the path of virtue. But it may be charitably supposed by yourself, as a Christain, that the moral part, the main object of our studies, has not been neglected by me as pastor; and that the cause of humanity, in attending the sick and the dying, in rescuing many, by a prudent and timely use of medicine, from the grasp of death, has been pro-

claimed with joy and edification in every recess of the Indian settlement."

The zeal of the Rev. Mr. Bondurel in this enterprise is worthy of all praise; but the same discouraging obstacle is complained of by him, that hinders their agricultural advancement, to wit: the unsuitableness of their present location. Their settlement, besides being as before remarked, extremely unhealthy, is *strung along the borders* of Lake Pah-way-hi-keen for eight miles. This form of the settlement renders it nearly impossible to get the small children into schools in the winter season, on account of the distance many of them necessarily live from the school houses.

Mr. Bondurel, in concert with the chiefs of the farming band, has selected a fine site for a settlement in an elevated district of healthy land, with a good stream for mills passing through it, whither he is desirous of gathering the farming band of the Menomonies. But to meet his views, as before observed, a treaty should be had, and a *reservation* located to them which would ensure permanency to the possession of their improvements.

For a more particular view of the *schools* in this sub-agency, among this, as well as the other tribes, I desire to refer to the *abstract* herewith submitted, made out from the monthly reports of the several teachers, and which I desire may be made a part of this report. From this abstract it will be perceived that, for the past year, there has been in this sub-agency 11 teachers employed in all, and 244 scholars taught. The improvement in the whole has been highly creditable to the teachers and the efforts of the government.

The foregoing might properly close this report concerning the Indians belonging to this sub-agency. In my last annual report I stated, that besides the Menomonies there were bands of other tribes in the vicinity—*Ottawas, Pottowatomies, Winnebagoes, &c.* Within the last few days complaints are made by the whites, settlers bordering on the Fox river, in Winnebago and Marquette counties, of serious depredations by the Indians. I immediately directed my interpreter, Mr. Charles A. Grignon, to repair to the neighborhood, with a view at once to enjoin the Menomonies to observe good order, and to procure and furnish to the Department, without delay, *correct information* as to the true nature of the disturbance. He has not yet returned. In the meantime, I learn, from sources I think to be relied on, that the depredators are none of them Menomonies. It appears that, in addition to the bands of the Pottowatomies and Winnebagoes that have for many years ranged over the country in question, there was, the spring and summer past, quite a large band of the Pottowatomies, that emigrated to the Missouri, returned, and located themselves in the neighborhood of Green lake, Fon du Lac, and Fox river, both in the Indian country and on the ceded lands. I judge this to be true, and that they are the depredators complained of by the whites of that neighborhood, from the fact that the Menomonies have complained of these new intruders as causing them great trouble, by destroying their fields of corn and generally plundering them of their effects.

The return of Mr. Grignon will put me in possession of the facts

of this affair, and I will lose no time in communicating them to your Excellency.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS,
U. S. Sub-Indian Agent.

To the Excellency, HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Madison.

No. 6.

ST. LOUIS SUPERINTENDENCY,
Fort Leavenworth Agency, October 29, 1847.

SIR: In making my annual report, I take pleasure in informing you that the Indians in this part of the superintendency—embracing those on the Missouri and its tributaries—have been healthy during the present year, and are unusually so at this time.

Where any attention has been given to agriculture among the tribes, labor has been rewarded with abundance, with the exception of the Pawnees, whose country has suffered during the past summer from severe drought. Some of the tribes in this superintendency are becoming good farmers, especially in the Fort Leavenworth agency.

I learn from the Turkey river sub-agent, General Fletcher, that a considerable of agricultural emulation exists in that sub-agency. The sub-agent, no doubt, has been highly instrumental in exciting an interest among the Winnebagoes for agricultural pursuits, by establishing an agricultural society, and offering premiums.

I regret that it is not in my power to report that the Indians have continued in peace with each other. With regard to their feelings towards the whites, there is no doubt, that with a few exceptions, they are peaceable and friendly. The idea that seems to prevail to a considerable extent in the States, that there is danger of an outbreak or general border war, has not, in my opinion, any foundation to sustain it. I have visited this fall a number of tribes, and have found them entertaining the most kindly feelings towards the whites, and increased confidence in the government. This has been especially manifested by the Pottowatomies, one of the most powerful of our Indian tribes in population, wealth, and intelligence, in the superintendency.

The war parties so common among uncivilized Indians, I regret to inform you, have greatly increased during the present year, and especially in their fatal consequences to some of our border tribes. War parties upon a large scale have been fitted out by the Sioux, amounting in number in some instances, to seven or eight hundred warriors. Within the last few months, they have made several attacks upon tribes which the United States are using efforts to civilize, killing over one hundred and fifty, and have threatened to carry on a war of extermination against the Pawnees, Ottoes, and

defenceless Omahas. In their late attack upon the Ottoes, and hostile visit to the Pawnee and Omaha villages, they were in the immediate vicinity of Bellevue, where a number of white families reside. From the increasing boldness, and desperate determination of the Sioux, if not speedily checked, I consider the population of western Missouri and Iowa as by no means safe from their attacks; and as the Pottowatomies no longer oppose a barrier to their incursions on the northwest, it would be difficult to conceive the dreadful consequences that might follow a descent of these desperate savages upon the western portions of these two States. From the best information I can obtain, it appears that the greater part of the Sioux engaged in these war parties, are from the St. Peter's bands. While at the Council Bluffs a few days ago, I was informed that they were about starting a large war party against the Pawnees. I requested the volunteer companies then on the point of marching up the Missouri country, if they came across them, to demand a number of their principal men to be held as hostages for the future good conduct of their nation.

All the tribes that make periodical hunts upon the prairies, are in the habit of sending out war parties, but with the exception of the Sioux, these are generally small.

Your instructions to withhold the Iowa annuity until they should make reparation for their wanton attack upon an Omaha lodge last winter, were carried into effect, and resulted in an amicable arrangement. The principal chief, and others of the Iowas, directly your instructions were made known to them, hastened to the Council Bluffs agency, met the Omahas in council, made peace and other arrangements for reparation to the entire satisfaction of the Omahas. It is believed that this prompt measure will have a favorable effect in future, not only upon the Iowas, but upon the other tribes that were present at the council.

It is difficult for persons at a distance to conceive all the bad effects produced by these incessant wars among the Indians, but especially upon those that the government and missionary societies are trying to civilize. The frontier tribes exposed to these attacks are compelled, for protection, to live in villages, which is very prejudicial to agricultural pursuits, so necessary in the promotion of their civilization; and when they go on the buffalo hunt they are compelled, for safety, to take along the entire tribe. In consequence of the continual aggressions of the Sioux, missionaries, after several years of effort among the Pawnees, and after having gained their confidence in a very favorable degree, have been compelled, with great reluctance, to abandon them for the present.

From the impracticability of keeping hands at the Pawnee village, (the Sioux having visited it twice this year—on one occasion killing 23 Pawnees,) I have thought it advisable, for the present, to suspend all operations by the farmers, and have accordingly discharged all the persons employed on the farms; the Sioux in their last visit having destroyed the implements—in fact, everything about the village that could be readily destroyed.

Taking into view the great benefits that would result to humanity,

and the advancement of civilization, by puting a stop to Indian wars, I would again recommend what seems to my mind the only feasible mode, that is to say, a general council on the plains in the buffalo country, in the month of May or June, of as many Indian tribes as could be induced to assemble, for the purpose of forming treaties of peace and friendship; the United States to be a party, for the purpose of enforcing the observance of such treaties and of punishing delinquencies. The Oregon battalion could be present, without much inconvenience, as its presence would give importance to the negotiations and overawe the turbulent. Negotiations thus entered into, I am inclined to think, would be observed in good faith, which would be of incalculable advantage to the Indians. Before they can be civilized they must be taught to believe that it is more honorable to become tillers of the soil, and to provide for their families, than to destroy each other for some trifling or imaginary wrong; it would also give additional security to our white people in crossing the plains, as it is the war parties that generally do all the mischief.

The Pawnees, from the frequent robberies they have committed on the whites, have become exceedingly obnoxious; they greatly annoyed the government trains bound to Santa Fé last fall. From the best information I can obtain, they have not done much mischief this year. You are aware that the mischief has been attributed, and I think justly, to that portion of the band on the south of the Platte river. It is notorious that those on the north have been anxious that their friends on the south side should be forced over to join them, in order to check them in their depredations and increase their means of protection against their enemies, the Sioux. I have recommended that the village on the south side should be destroyed and its inhabitants driven over to their friends on the north side, and that some of their principal men should be kept in confinement as hostages for the good conduct of their bands.

During my late stay at the Council Bluffs agency, I was visited by a delegation of Pawnee chiefs, to learn from me the wishes of the government in their regard. They informed me that, when on their return from their hunt, they found that the Sioux, to the number of some 600 or 700, had been to their village and destroyed everything that could be destroyed; they, for the preservation of themselves and families, had crossed to the south side of the Platte, where they now are, and where they are anxious to have their farmers and missionaries; that they were desirous to listen to the words of their great father; that they knew that even if the white troops were sent to drive them from there, they would spare their women and children; but that if they returned to the north side, without sufficient protection, the Sioux would kill men, women, and children. The Pawnees have some excellent traits of character—they are sober, industrious, devoted to the whites who live among them, and desirous to learn their habits.

Should they have protection from the Sioux, I would recommend that their farming fund be, with their consent, applied to the

manual labor system. I consider the plan of making corn for the Indians worse than useless; not a single instance has come to my knowledge where the government has undertaken to farm for Indians in which their supply of corn has not been diminished; the Indians become indifferent when they have white men to work for them, and the whites themselves are but too apt to acquire the indolent habits of those around them—the result is that but little corn is raised and little or no instruction imparted; all that is necessary in farming for Indians, is to teach them to substitute the plough for the hoe, and this they can learn by their communication with the manual labor schools.

The many acts of violence that have been committed on the plains by what are called the "wild Indians," call loudly for some more energetic system than any yet put in practice in relation to Indians. The application of our humane system to these people is entirely insufficient to restrain them ; we must deal with men as we find them, not as we would have them to be. Many acts of the most flagrant character committed by the Sioux within the last few years yet remain unpunished. The difficulty of obtaining evidence, and other difficulties incident to roaming tribes, make the trial of an Indian little better than a farce in their estimation, and they often laugh at them. When acts of violence, murder, robbery, &c., are committed, the guilty should be demanded, and if not surrendered, some of their principal men should be seized and held as hostages until they are given up. There is no difficulty in ascertaining the guilty among Indians, as those acts that the whites would seek to conceal, the wild Indians boast of as great exploits. They should be *tried* by a military court when practicable in their own country, and their chiefs, when seized as hostages, should be put to labor, and not returned to their people loaded with presents. In fine, they must be made to feel the power of the government.

The practice that still obtains of furnishing Indians with guns as part of their annuity, and permitting their traders to sell them such articles, should, in my opinion, be discontinued. When the Pawnees received guns at their annuity payment, they traded them to the Comanches; and the Osages in the fall generally procure a large number of guns for their winter hunt, which they exchange in the summer with the Comanches and other southwestern tribes for mules—thus supplying these Indians with weapons to be turned against ourselves. I would, therefore, recommend that an order be issued interdicting traders from selling guns, powder, lead, or balls of any description to the Indians, and that neither guns nor ammunition be furnished by the government in the shape of annuities, as for all the purposes of the buffalo hunt, the arrow is known to be equally, if not more, effective.

During the last summer, I addressed circulars to the several agents and sub-agents in this superintendency, in order to ascertain the number of murders committed by the Indians upon each other, the cause and the propriety of applying the criminal laws of the United States to the border tribes. I have received various

letters in reply, which are herewith enclosed, marked from letter A to G inclusive, to which I beg respectfully to call your attention. The many Indian murders that occur among the border tribes, and especially among those who are remarkable for temperance, is truly deplorable. The mode of punishment, if punishment it may be called, is calculated to increase the murders to an almost unlimited extent; the murderer may be killed by the next of kin to the deceased, and so on without limit. The government in many instances, and especially of property, acts as the guardian of the Indians, and applies the criminal laws of the United States to murders committed by Indians in their own country upon whites. There can, therefore, I should think, be no doubt as to the power of the government to make the law general in its application, so as to hold the Indian amenable for the murder of one of his own nation equally as of a white person; humanity would seem to indicate this policy. I am sure it would meet the approbation of the Indians. Many of them are aware of the necessity of law; but they say they could not execute it if they had it, and, therefore, wish the United States to make and execute laws for them. The murder of a white man among the civilized Indians is rarely ever heard of, while the murder of their own people is of frequent occurrence. Why is it so? Because they would be punished by the laws of the whites. The Indians are generally a law-abiding people; hold them responsible for the murder of their own people, and it would become a rare occurrence. The prospect of a long confinement would, probably, be more effectual even than death. I cannot too strongly urge the subject upon your attention.

Education begins to attract increased attention among the Indians. I have not had an opportunity of visiting many of the schools this fall; the reports of the agents and teachers, however, will give detailed information on the subject. While at the Bluffs, I visited the improvements being made by the Rev. Mr. McKinney, under the direction of the Presbyterian Board of Missions. It is intended for the education of the Ottoes and Omaha children, and will be ready in a few weeks for their reception. The Ottoes agreed in council to appropriate their annual school fund to the education of their children in this school. Ladies in New York, connected with this society, have made a very liberal provision for the education of both Ottoes and Omaha children. Mr. McKinney is a gentleman of energy, and experienced in the management of Indian schools.

I visited a small school, taught by Miss Osgood, under the patronage of the Western Baptist Mission among the Weas; the children are boarded in the school and are progressing well.

During my late visit to the Miamies, they appropriated from their annuity two thousand dollars per annum for education. Their school will be put in operation at the earliest practicable day, under the charge of the Catholic church. From their success with Pottowatomies, on Sugar creek, it is expected they will succeed in checking the vices of this small remnant of a once interesting people.

Your liberal proposition for establishing schools among the Potto-

watomies in their new country, was received by me in July last, but as they had united as one nation, by their late treaty, I thought it injudicious to ask their concurrence until they could be met in a united council; it is expected that they will meet in a few days in their new country. Major Cummins has been instructed to visit them there, and to show them their boundary lines, and knowing that the Major possesses the full confidence of the nation, I have requested him to lay the proposition before them.

Having taken an interest in the establishment of the school among the Osages, I would remark that I understand from the gentleman who has charge of it, that it has opened under very flattering circumstances. Early next year, it is expected that the Methodist church will commence a manual labor school among the Kanzas Indians.

The Pottowatomies, although not compelled to emigrate under their late treaty, until July, 1848, have commenced their emigration under the most satisfactory circumstances. I attended the payment at the Council Bluffs sub-agency, and urged their immediate emigration; they entered into it with great spirit, and immediately after the payment started for their new homes, crossing the Missouri river at different points, in large parties. The chief of the Miamies, with a small portion of his band, also left the country with the intention of hunting on their way. That portion on the Osage were to have left last week. I presume before this reaches you, the Pottowatomie emigration will have been completed. They will, therefore, consider themselves entitled to the annuity, under their new treaty, one year after emigration.

The law of the last session of Congress, making it penal to introduce spirits into the Indian country, it is believed has already had a beneficial effect. Several prosecutions will be made at the next court against both whites and Indians. The Indians who will be presented are intelligent, and are otherwise most appropriate subjects for the application of penal law. A few such prosecutions will doubtless have a very happy effect in deterring Indians from introducing ardent spirits into the Indian country.

The law of the last session of Congress declaring void all executory contracts of Indians, must be considered by *all who have not been, or are not expecting to be benefitted by such contracts*, to be wise and salutary. Had its existence been coeval with our Indian relations, there is no doubt, in my mind, that the government would have been saved much trouble, and the Indians protected from incalculable frauds. Those who have any acquaintance with Indian transactions know with what facility bonds can be obtained from them, especially by those who have an influence over them, such as is usually possessed by their popular traders.

At the late Pottowatomie treaty (at both the Council Bluffs and Osage river sub-agencies) the Indians gave their notes to the traders for more than ninety thousand dollars; and, as I understand, these notes were given upon no other evidence than the simple statement of a clerk that the Indians owed so many thousand dollars. This case, I presume, is not an exception to the usual mode of obtaining Indian bonds or national notes; and I am free to declare, from my

observation, that they should only be considered as partial or presumptive evidence of debt. Your instructions requiring the annuity to be paid to the heads of families, and individuals without families, and that no debts should be paid by the Indians out of their undivided annuity until the debts have been found to be just, after previous investigation, I have cause to believe is entirely acceptable to the Indians, where they have not been tampered with by interested white men.

The only grounds of objection, it seems to me, that can exist on the part of the claimants is delay; and this is only partial, for as the Pottowatomies are by much the largest debtors, they have paid all they intended to pay at their late payment out of the fund set apart for debts, improvements, &c., and consequently cannot pay any more until they receive their annuity, under their new treaty, so that the interval will give ample time for investigation. But were it even otherwise, a partial delay should not weigh a feather in comparison with your desire to protect the interests of the Indians; and assuredly no fair and correct trader ought to desire, for a moment, to shield his accounts from the strictest scrutiny.

I believe there are very few tribes in this superintendency who are now in the habit of making national debts. The Pottowatomies certainly have not been; but as has been the custom heretofore at treaties, they have been induced to close up the debts of all their tribe who have individually proved delinquent, thus making the provident pay the debts of the improvident.

The laws and instructions based thereon, requiring the annuities to be paid to heads of families, &c., cannot but prove beneficial in its effects. *Chief payments* are known to be highly prejudicial to the interests of the mass of the tribe. The property of the tribe is appropriated mainly to the benefit of the chiefs, and their immediate personal friends, often the most corrupt and degraded of the nation. The propriety of the measure is too palpable to require a remark to support it.

The Indians have been informed, in accordance with your instructions, that hereafter their payments would be semi-annual instead of annual. This arrangement will no doubt increase the value of the annuity, as it will shorten their credits, and enable them to trade more for cash. The spring, with the improvident Indian, is generally the severest season of the year; their annuity is expended, their credit exhausted, and instead of devoting their time to planting, &c., they are compelled from necessity to devote a large portion of it to the procuring immediate subsistence.

The only objection I heard made to the semi-annual payments, and to heads of families, was among the Miamies. This I understood to be the objection of the Indiana traders, who had come on this summer to take off, as they did last spring, more than two-thirds of their annuity. I learn that they were told that if they received their semi-annual payments, that the government would defraud them; but if they would refuse to receive the half year payment, that the government would change its policy and pay them annually, and as heretofore. When I arrived at their

village, I found that they had determined, in a counsel held with their sub-agent, not to receive their semi-annual payment. I took every opportunity of exposing the conduct of the Indiana traders to the Indians, and of presenting the paternal intentions of the government towards them. As soon as the sub-agent arrived, we opened a roll, and invited all who wanted money to come forward and give in their families; about one-third of the nation, at first, came forward; the roll was then completed from the *ration roll.* As soon as the dollars began to circulate, the entire nation manifested a disposition to participate in the payment; all received $60 50 for each person, (semi-annual payment.) I am sure all were delighted, with a few exceptions only, of those whose pecuniary interest would have been advanced by a *chief payment*, to the serious prejudice of their own people. The Miami annuity gives them about $120 each, per annum. With this large sum they have not been able to obtain credit for the last eight months for more than $15, notwithstanding it was their first year in the country and that they needed more than ordinary supplies. This restriction of their credit was in consequence of the uncertainty of the payment of their annuity.

Some additional legislation is required for the punishment of persons who may be found endeavoring to defeat the policy of the government in its intercourse with the Indians; in the case of the Miamies it was palpable. George Hunt, a half-breed Miami, one of the party permitted to remain in Indiana, and formerly United States interpreter, was present as the hired tool of a part of the Indiana traders. He went so far as to threaten to kill the first Indian that would receive his annuity. I do not mean to express any opinion to the prejudice of *the claims of Indiana traders*, but I do protest against the conduct of a *portion of them* in prejudicing them in the first place against emigrating, and afterwards following them to this country and endeavoring to defeat the policy of the government.

I would here remark, that the intercourse law gives authority to remove from the Indian country persons who are obnoxious to the laws; but such persons may return the next day, and the farce of removal be thus continued, from day to day, without any means of remedying it. I would respectfully suggest that some changes be made, so as to give effect and permanence to the removal of improper persons from the Indian country.

So far as I am advised, the payments this fall have been made with promptness and according to your instructions, except that to the Sacs and Foxes, under the agency of Major Beach. I have no official information on the subject; but, from rumor, the money has been disposed of in violation of positive instructions. I presume, however, that it will be made the subject of special investigation.

The Indian trade is probably the most fruitful source of difficulty in all our Indian relations, and, I doubt not, has presented more obstacles to the government, and to the philanthropists, who go among them to civilize them, than any other cause. Too great a facility has been afforded for the admission of immoral persons into the In-

dian country as traders and engagees. It is found that many go into the Indian country to avoid the restraints of civilized society, and contribute, by their vicious habits, rather to degrade than to civilize the Indians. No white man should be permitted to go into the Indian country whose moral character is not good.

The objections to the Indian trade, as at present conducted, are easily seen, but I am at a loss to suggest any adequate remedy. The Indians, in many instances, are made to pay enormously for their supplies. For instance, I was told by a trader that he sold to the Pawnees last spring less than a pound and a half of powder (a tin cup full and a half by measure) and a proportion of ball for a buffalo robe, and a three-point white blanket for two robes; and the Pawnees' robes are said to be the best.

The regulations require that the trader should keep up a permanent establishment, yet this is merely nominal with those who pretend to it; they do but little business except about the time of payment. Semi-annual payments, with a relaxation of the restriction to keep up a permanent establishment, would enable the Indians to procure supplies on better terms, and to diffuse the trade among a meritorious class of citizens that cannot afford the expense of keeping up a permanent establishment.

The Mormons who have settled on the south of the Missouri river, and on lands claimed by the Omahas and Ottoes, have informed me that they would leave next spring. They have made some improvements in building, breaking up of lands, &c. When they leave, I fear that the above-named tribes may come to an open rupture in relation to the ownership of the lands and the improvements. It is important that the title should be settled; if there is any evidence in the possession of the Department, by which it can be adjusted, it should be done without delay; if not, it would be best to purchase it by a joint sale to be made by the two tribes.

The large tracts of land held by many of the tribes in the country west of the Missouri is calculated to retard their improvement. No people will improve fast in civilization who can, without hindrance, change their location at will; to improve, it is necessary that men should be brought into constant social intercourse. I would respectfully suggest that these fine rich lands must be subjected to the plough sooner or later, and that the interest of the Indians would require that they should be brought within more circumscribed limits, and their title to lands, not necessary for their use, be extinguished; but, at the same time, I would repudiate any suggestion that would have a tendency to remove them from their present location.

The civilization of the Indians is no longer a mere speculative idea. Remove from among them bad white men and their contaminating influence, and substitute an efficient administration among them, aided by energetic missionaries, with the manual school system, and it will be found entirely practicable.

An opinion prevails that the buffalo must soon disappear, and thereby cut off the support of the several tribes that are at present subsisted by them. As they become scarce, hostile tribes will be necessarily forced to pursue them into each other's country, and

deadly wars may be expected to follow. Humanity would indicate that the government should begin to look to the period, and provide a country suitable for agriculture for these roaming tribes, who have not lands fit for farming, and to direct the attention of the tribes to the subject in time.

I cannot close this report without calling your attention to the settlement of the Pottowatomie land reservation claims. For this purpose I would beg to refer you to my annual report of 1846 on this subject. Some of those who have sold and made deeds, complain that the money agreed on has not been paid. It should be inquired into, and justice, if possible, be done to the reservees.

I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. W. Medill,
Commissioner Indian Office.

Supplemental.

Office Superintendent Indian Affairs.
St. Louis, November 19, 1847.

Sir: In my annual report, which I was late in preparing, and which was done on the road during my late visit to the Indian country, I omitted some subjects which I should have brought to your notice, and which I now beg leave to supply, although it may be too late to accompany my report.

Being aware that education forms an important feature in your policy for the improvement of the Indians, and that the missionary teachers frequently complain of the difficulty they find in obtaining and keeping the children at school, in consequence of their desire to be free and unrestrained, and of the disposition of their parents to indulge them, it becomes necessary to adopt some plan for obviating this difficulty, and thereby rendering the object sought after more attainable. With this view, it seems to me that the improvement contemplated would be facilitated, where there are boarding schools established, by placing the orphan children under the care and direction of such schools. This would secure them constant scholars, whose improvement would be more rapid and thorough than those under the more immediate control of their parents, while at the same time it would secure a better and more comfortable provision for the orphans themselves than they at present enjoy. When the tribe has an annuity, it is frequently a subject of contention among individuals as to whom the orphan shall belong, not so much for the protection of the orphan, as for the right to receive his or her portion of the annuity.

In cases where the school fund is sufficient for the education of all the children, the orphans' annuity might be retained by the government, and paid over when they arrive at maturity, which would

enable them to commence life under advantageous circumstances; otherwise, it should be used in defraying the expenses of their education.

Since my return to St. Louis, I have heard from most of the agents, and of their annuity payments, all of which have been satisfactorily made, except that to the Sacs and Foxes in the Sacs and Fox agency; that payment was made, to my great astonishment, *in direct violation of positive instructions.* On my return from Washington with the funds on the 1st of September, I found Major Beach at this place waiting for those of his agency. He left his agency without instructions or authority to do so; but it is proper to state that he was written to in Iowa, (where he went on a visit to his family,) and directed to come to St. Louis for his funds, by my direction, before I left Washington. Had he remained at his agency, he would have been some six or eight days later in reaching St. Louis.

It being my intention to superintend the Pottowatomie payment, at the Council Bluffs, with a view to hasten their emigration, it became necessary that the money should be paid to the agents early in September in order to enable me to do so.

To accommodate Mr. Beach, who was anxious to return to his agency, I turned over to him the annuity money before the receipt of the instructions from Washington, which he was assured would be received in a few days. I paid over, also, the annuities to Majors Cummins, Vaughan, and Hewitt, under similar circumstances, and *with positive directions to all of them not to make payment until they should receive the instructions.* All strictly observed my directions except Mr. Beach.

In a paper appended by Mr. Beach to one of his vouchers, he says, "just before leaving St. Louis, with the annuity of 1847, the Superintendent of Indian Affairs instructed me not to pay the Sacs and Foxes until I should hear from him—this was September 2d. I reached my agency September the 10th; —— days elapsed and I heard nothing from the superintendent. I had a person waiting to bring the mail from Westport, (our post office,) which came to that place on the 15th of September, as well as on the 11th and 13th—they all came at once. I had obtained the mail of the 8th in person. The mail of the 18th also came safely to me. On the 19th I received nothing from the superintendent. I felt under no obligations to him to remain here *indefinitely* for the want of the proper orders to pay," &c. Under ordinary circumstances I should not have considered it important to have hurried the instructions, it being too early for payment; but intending to set out, as I before remarked, for the Bluffs, I considered it important that it should be done before I left; the instructions to Major Beach were mailed at this place on the 8th of September, as you have been heretofore advised. A gentleman of this city started about the same time for the Sac and Fox agency, for the purpose of receiving money from a trader. On arriving at Westport, he learned that the instructions had not yet been received. He determined to remain at Westport until they should arrive—the mail for Westport lies over at Independence (12 miles from Westport) several days. This gentleman

being anxious to return to St. Louis, obtained an order from the postmaster at Westport, on the postmaster at Independence, for the Westport mail, and brought it up at his own expense. In this mail was a packet for Major Beach which doubtless contained the instructions. He volunteered to take the packet to the agency, and it was accordingly entrusted to him. On the road to the agency, he met a person riding rapidly, who inquired of him if he had the mail for Maj. B., and, on being answered in the affirmative, presented an order from Maj. B. for it, stating that the Indians were very impatient, and that it was important that the instructions should be received as early as possible—that as he had a fresh horse he could reach the agency in a shorter time than the other. The mail was accordingly given to him, but which Maj. Beach says never came to hand. This was some days before the payment.

From the facts and circumstances that have come to my knowledge, there is no doubt on my mind that the instructions fell into the hands of those who were interested in defeating the intentions of the government, viz: to pay the money to heads of families, and to investigate the so called *national debts*, before the Indians would be permitted to pay them out of their undivided annuity.

It is to me astonishing that Maj. Beach should complain of delay in regard to the time of payment. Last year he had the funds in his hands more than six weeks before he made the payment, which did not take place until the 24th of October. I was present at the payment, and heard no complaint about delay. It is generally admitted by all, even by traders themselves, that late payments are best for the Indians. When the weather is cold, they buy substantial clothing for their families—when warm, it is otherwise. Major Cummins, an agent of great experience and sagacity, took up his funds about the same time, the 6th of September. He paid the Kickapoos, Delawares, Shawnees, and other Indians, during the last weeks of October. About the 25th, many of the Sacs and Foxes were in the vicinity of the agency, and few, if any, more than three days' travel from there. I am equally astonished that any pretence should have been made that these Indians were suffering for provisions, when the agent had, in his control, ample means under the fifth article of the treaty of 1842, applicable to the purchase of provisions, &c.

The Sacs and Foxes divide their annuity into equal portions between the two tribes. If the money had been divided per capita, they would have received between $32 and $35 each. The Foxes, however, received, as I am informed, but $3 each. Both tribes have already made complaints of their destitute condition.

The excitement and threats of the Indians spoken of were, no doubt, assumed for stage effect. The character of the government, and especially of the Indian service, requires that the whole matter should be subjected to the most searching scrutiny.

Major Sublette is instructed to inquire into the circumstances of the payment, and report the result to this office, but not having the power to compel the attendance of witnesses, or to make them an-

swer, if not so inclined, his investigation must be necessarily defective.

A body of troops, say a company, should always be in attendance at payments, not to overawe the Indians; for I will repeat what I have often said before, that there is no difficulty in doing business with them, but to keep the whites within the pale of the law.

I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. W MEDILL,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 7.

FORT LEAVENWORTH AGENCY, *October* 30, 1847.

SIR: a full and complete report of the affairs of this agency, should have been made long since, but other important duties and a crippled thumb, have prevented me from making a report at the proper time.

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On the 27th day of October, I completed the last annuity payment I had to make to the various tribes, within this agency, and have the satisfaction to say, that during my travels of some 250 miles among the various tribes, I did not see a drunken Indian; and, as is usual at my annuity payment, I had not the least difficulty or unnecessary trouble. The various tribes received their annuity thankfully; the most of them, as they often do, requested me to give their thanks to their great father. While on the subject of the payment of annuities, I will remark, that I cannot express myself in as strong terms as I wish, in favor of the present laws and regulations, in regard to the mode of making annuity payments to the Indians. They are so just and equitable, that I do not see how any objection can be made to them. They secure to the Indian everything that justice and equity could require. They will eventually secure to the government a stronger influence over the Indians, for they are not insensible to justice and their common rights. It will have a tendency to make them more economical, and prevent them from making large national debts—so ruinous to the red man. If I could write, I could mention many other evils that the law and regulations will save them from.

All the tribes within this agency are peaceable and friendly among themselves, and with all other tribes, and it is very gratifying to me to be able to state, that during the last seventeen years, not a serious difficulty of any kind has taken place between them and the whites.

The Kansas, Shawnees, Delawares, Kickapoos, Stockbridge,

Munsee and Christian Indians, are the tribes that are placed under my care, all of whom, except the Kansas, are doing well, becoming more and more civilized, and better agriculturists every year. This year they have raised an abundance of corn to do them—many of them will have to spare; some have already sold considerable lots of corn; many of them raise oats and some wheat, and all raise vegetables of various kinds—pumpkins, cabbages, potatoes, &c. &c.

These tribes send many of their children to school. There are two manual labor and one common school among the Shawnees, one common school among the Delawares, and one among the Christian Indians, and, until lately, one among the Stockbridges. At the Methodist manual labor school among the Shawnees, this year there are 125 scholars—78 males, and 47 females. Of this number, the Delawares furnish 19 males and 19 females; the Shawnees furnish 21 males and 9 females; the balance of the number is made up from various other tribes. At this institution they are endeavoring to give males and females at least a common English education. The males are taught the various branches of agriculture, some of them are placed under mechanics, to learn trades—such as wagon-makers, blacksmiths, and shoemakers. The females are taught all the duties of housewifery, cooking, spinning, weaving, knitting, &c.

The religious Society of Friends (orthodox) located among the Shawnees, average about 50 scholars this year—about 25 males and 25 females. This institution is conducted very much on the same plan of the one mentioned above, except that they have no mechanics. Great care is taken in this school, and the one mentioned above, to engraft good morals, and improve the condition of the Indian children, and the Indians generally.

The Baptists also have a mission among the Shawnees, and generally keep up a small school. This year they had fifteen Shawnee children at school.

The Baptist mission located among the Delawares has, this year, about 23 scholars. I am, at this time, unable to state the particulars of this school.

The society of Moravians have a school among the Christian Indians, the superintendent of which has not made a report to me this year, and I have not had it in my power to visit the school. This school has heretofore been doing well, and I have no doubt has this year.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

RICHARD W. CUMMINS, *Indian Agent.*

Major Thomas H. Harvey,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 8.

Agency for Sacs and Foxes,
Osage River, September 1, 1847.

Sir: Within the past twelve months the Sacs and Foxes (formerly of the Mississippi) have become settled upon the tract of

country assigned to them, under the treaty of 1842, for a permanent home. Already several villages have sprung up, and their numerous fields of corn give evidence of a commendable industry. Still their agricultural labors are confined within a narrow range, both as regards the quantity of tillage, and the variety of products. Eventually, and that at a period of time not distant, agriculture must become their principal reliance for support, although as yet, their own aversion to labor, combined with a natural prepossession for that erratic life, in the pursuit of which, until in recent years, their subsistence had been chiefly procured, renders the approaching necessity for a change of habit less apparent to themselves. They still devote a great portion of their time to hunting, which, in the year past, has met with very good success. In fact, their buffalo hunt, from which they returned in the early part of August, proved to be more fortunate than any ever before effected by them. The buffalo were found at a very short distance from their country, by which they were enabled to pack home a much larger supply than usually their horses can transport.

At my recommendation, a little over one hundred acres of prairie land was broken up and fenced, in fields from five to thirty acres, during the last spring, and probably application for the similar preparation of about one hundred and fifty more will be made in season for next year's cultivation. In addition to that, I have had ploughed nearly or quite as much, in small patches, dotted along the creek margins, in the soft timber land, which has been under tillage, the whole promising a good crop. The soil is greatly inferior to that of the country which they last occupied, and as the Indians have not yet learned to compensate for this disadvantage by an increased amount of labor, their harvest will not favorably compare with that of previous years.

The receipt of annuities, or at least of such large ones as are paid to the Sacs and Foxes, is, I believe, looked upon by most of those familiar with their effects upon the Indians, and unprejudiced by any personal interest, as a real evil to the recipient. I am firmly convinced that it is so. If in the olden time it was only in the love of money that every evil found its source, in our day and among these people with whom the love of it is so little, that it is cast from the hand as freely as the dust from the moccasin. Money itself is that to which we may justly ascribe the production of almost all the difficulties that oppose their advancement, and, in this day, when benevolence is scanning every corner of our land in search of objects for its exercise, cause them to view with indifference, and even to reject with contempt, those plans and efforts in which their future welfare is so intimately blended. These annuities are the chief attraction which draws the whiskey merchant to the frontier. And even while a hope that the portion received from the government will prove adequate to supply his wants, the native energy of the Indian, whatever it may be, will be dormant, while listlessness and indolence, with the whole train of vices they engender, will maintain chilling influences, and point to him

as the only object where improvement rests, while all around him is progressive.

The act of the last session of Congress, imposing additional penalties, and increasing the means of conviction for the introduction of spirituous liquors into the Indian country, will, no doubt, be productive of much benefit, and tend, in a great degree, to suppress the traffic, in so far as it may have been carried on upon the Indian side of the boundary; still, it is not to the Indian country alone that this iniquity was confined, the greater portion of the intoxicating articles used by the Indians being usually brought among them by individuals of their own number, who go into the State and there purchase them; nor do I suppose that the evil can be checked until the sale of ardent spirits is entirely suppressed over a distance of at least fifty miles from the Indian line.

The Sacs and Foxes pertinaciously reject every overture for the admission of schools or missionaries among them. During some months past, I have had an application for the promotion of these objects pending before them. My opportunities for knowing the prejudices and apprehensions concerning them, existing among the Indians, suggested the necessity for much caution. The request was at first submitted to only two of the principal chiefs, and would not have been laid before the nation at large, could the assent of the chiefs been obtained; but the two to whom I had at first applied, although they appeared to approve of my proposal, feared to communicate their approval without consultation with their head men; and when the subject was brought before these in council, some slight hopes which I had cherished were at once dispersed by their unequivocal dissent. It should be borne in mind that this application was merely for their permission that the requisite buildings for a missionary establishment should be erected, and that its conductors should reside in their country, with the full understanding that none of their means should be asked for towards its maintenance. So liberal an offer has never before been made to them, nor one calculated in its own terms to show them that the actuating principle grew from a higher motive than merely to obtain some of their money—an argument which, I have reason to fear, has too often been used to defeat previous efforts in cases where they did not bear within themselves evidence of its falsity. I must own that I was greatly disappointed, for I had hoped and desired differently, yet I trust not so as to be deterred from a repetition. I had supposed that the opportunities which, since their removal to their new home, these Indians had acquired of observing among many of their neighbor tribes the benefits they had derived from civilization, would have exerted a salutary influence in dissipating many of their own groundless scruples; and no doubt these had been in some degree effective; but, unfortunately, the vices of civilization, which too often seem to find in Indian enlightenment a better adaptation to their own progress than in the uncultivated mind, are many times too prominent to escape notice, even were there not persons ever ready, by perverted appeals and unfair arguments,

to render their unsightliness more apparent, and falsely exhibit them as the necessary consequences of improvement.

At the present time, when our country is at war with a foreign power, and many of the more distant Indian tribes are disposed to embarrass its movements, and have committed aggressions upon its citizens and property, it gives me more than ordinary pleasure to say that I have every confidence in the friendly disposition of the Sacs and Foxes; that they have been in no way accessary to any of the recent outrages, or aware that they were in contemplation by those who perpetrated them; and that no apprehensions need be entertained of any departure from their present pacific and orderly deportment, so long as our government continues faithfully the fulfilment of its recognised obligations towards them. They are also generally at peace with their Indian neighbors. They are too remote from the Sioux to be in danger of meeting with them. Their summer hunts carry them upon the ground traversed by the Pawnees, and they expect (should they come in contact with them,) and are prepared for, a fight; but thus far they have not met.

A special form being now prescribed in which many statistical details will be embraced, setting forth the improvement and condition of the Indians, to be collected at the annual payment of annuities—subjects of that nature are now passed over which would otherwise have come within the range of this report.

Very respectfully, I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JOHN BEACH,
U. S. Indian Agent.

Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 9.

UPPER MISSOURI AGENCY, *October* 17, 1847.

SIR: In presenting my annual report, I have but little to communicate, and must necessarily be brief.

The Indians are in good health, and doing unusually well—their resources amounting to $300,000 for the last season, which may be estimated as follows:

75,000 buffalo robes, at $3 per robe	$225,000
Furs, peltries, &c., &c	35,000
Miscellaneous trade	40,000
The aggregate amount of which is, as above stated..	$300,000

and would be amply sufficient to supply all the wants of the Indians, but for the extravagant prices of goods, which are unreasonably high, and should be curtailed.

There are two licensed trading companies in this district of country that use a capital of $175,000; the larger portion of which is idle capital.

The Indians have been greatly imposed on in their intercourse

with the whites, in conducting the trade of the country. That system of trade which is now, and has been for years, carried on in this country, should be speedily abolished; and I need only add, that the system is that of "hawking and peddling" goods over the country, using the various posts of trade as places only of deposite.

The interests of the Indians require a change in the manner of conducting the trade of the country, which has been conducted for years to the great prejudice of the Indians, and contrary to the provisions of the intercourse law and the regulations of the Department.

To more effectually guard and protect the Indians from imposition and fraud, on the part of white men and traders in the country, I would suggest the following rules, viz:

1st. Require the trader to have a license for each separate trading post—his license to name the place of trade and the Indians with whom he intends trading; and, at the time of making application, to furnish, on oath, an invoice of merchandise for each post, the amount thereof to be embodied in his licenses; also, to give bond, with security, for each separate post of trade, and to be bound in said bond, to furnish, on oath, at the expiration of his license or termination of his bond, a balance sheet, showing the amount of goods sold, the kind sold, the balance of stock on hand at invoice prices, &c., by means of which the Department can determine whether the Indians have been fairly dealt with; also the propriety of a renewal of license; and in every instance to confine the trade to the various places of trade as designated in the license.

2d. The traders, upon application for a license, should furnish a list, on oath, of the white men they wish to introduce into the Indian territory, with satisfactory evidence of their good character, and that they were citizens of the United States—their names to be embodied in the bond and license. And as they introduce them into the country, I would hold them responsible for any fraud or imposition they may practice on the Indians.

3d. Require them to furnish, on oath, a list of all persons now in the country in their employment, with satisfactory evidence that they are men of good character and citizens of the United States; and for all such as could not come up to the rule, I would require the person or trader, who introduced them into the country, to turn them out forthwith.

For a non-compliance with the above, I would make it a good and sufficient cause for a revocation of license and a forfeiture of bond.

There are about five hundred white men in this district of country, the greater portion of whom are foreigners by birth, and many who never were citizens of the United tates. The interests of the Indians require the expulsion of many of these men, and speedy and prompt action should be taken to turn them out of the country.

I have addressed letters to the various traders, calling their attention to the intercourse law, and the regulations of the Department for the government of trade in the Indian country, requiring a strict compliance with the same; and I have also informed them

of the contemplated changes in the manner of conducting the trade of the country.

Of the Indians I have but little to say, as I am preparing, in detail, a report of the statistics of the country, the manners, customs, habits, and character of the Indians in my district.

The Indians have been extravagantly estimated by my predecessors in office—they having estimated the Sioux alone at fifty thousand souls; and I am at a loss to know from what source they derived their information, as they could not have obtained it from the Indians themselves. There are nine tribes in the agency, and they may be estimated as follows:

The various bands of Sioux	number	2,520	lodges,	cont'g	19,660	souls.
The Arickarees	"	240	"	"	1,800	"
The Gros Ventres	"	150	"	"	1,350	"
The Mandans	"	40	"	"	360	"
The Poncas	"	200	"	"	1,600	"
The Chayennes	"	317	"	"	2,536	"
The Crows	"	530	"	"	5,300	"
The Blackfeet	"	810	"	"	6,480	"
The Assineboines	"	980	"	"	6,860	"
The aggregate number of which is					45,946	

Total number of lodges 5,587, which would be a fraction over eight souls to the lodge.

The Sioux, Chayennes, Gros Ventres, Mandans, and Poncas are excellent Indians, devotedly attached to the white man, and live in peace and friendship with our government; and they are entitled to the special favor and good opinion of the Department for their uniform good conduct and pacific relations.

These people manifest a disposition to be instructed in the agricultural and mechanic arts, although they have made but little improvement as yet. They are highly susceptible, in my opinion, of a speedy and rapid improvement in the arts and habits of social life. They receive no annuity, have no schools or missionaries among them, at a great distance from the States, with a large number of *rascally* white men among them, and it is quite reasonable that they should have made but little improvement. These people are opposed to the introduction of ardent spirits into their country; but, like almost all other Indians, will use it if you give it to them; and when under its influence are a dangerous and troublesome people. When free from alcoholic influence, there are no better people.

I cannot too strongly urge upon the Department the propriety of doing something for these tribes; their necessities, wants, &c., require it, and humanity and the principles of philanthropy and religion demand that something should be done to civilize and Christianize these unfortunate people. Now is the time for action with them; for in a few years the game, their only means of living, will be extinguished, and they will then be poor indeed. While there yet exists game in the country, they should be given personal security from domestic war and strife. Give them permanent locations and secure residences, with notions of property and of right

and wrong, and Christianity and order will naturally spring up of themselves. I would advise the Department to establish an institution of learning—a manual labor school—at some convenient point on the Missouri river for the benefit of said tribes, the exclusive management of which I would give to the Catholics; not that I am a Catholic, but that I believe the Catholics are more successful in their attempts to civilize the Indians. Besides, they are a pious, good people, who give high evidence that they feel a great interest for the Indians; and they generally possess, to a more eminent degree, the confidence of the Indians than the Protestants; and I am for those who are capable of doing most good. An institution of this kind would do much good towards settling and locating these tribes; it would tend to bring together, in concert of action, and unite in feeling, principle, and interest, six of the tribes of the nine in the agency, and would thus be the means of uniting in interest twenty-seven thousand three hundred and six souls.

I induced a delegation from the principal bands of the Sioux, to visit the Gros Ventres, Mandans, and Arickarees. They were kindly received, and had many presents given them of robes, pipes, tobacco, and horses, after which they returned home, having promised to return with their people, and talk over and settle their difficulties. They kept their promise, and returned in a short time with 3,000 of their people, held a grand talk, smoked the pipe of peace, exchanged presents with mutual pledges of love, friendship, and good faith, and it is devoutly to be hoped that these pledges may never be broken.

The Arickarees are situated on the Missouri river, between the Gros Ventres and Sioux, and are much better Indians than they have character for being. They are inclined to treachery, are thievish and great libertines, yet they are better Indians than the Blackfeet and Assineboines, yet not so good as the Gros Ventres, Poncas, and others above mentioned.

The Crows, Blackfeet, and Assineboines, have made no improvement whatever, tenaciously adhering to all the ferocious customs and miserable expedients of savage life.

These Indians are excessively fond of ardent spirits, (with the exception of the Crows, who have never been known to drink or use strong liquors;) are also thievish, treacherous, and are only to be kept under through fear; for they still continue to despise and hate the white man, and every effort made to gain their love and friendship has been made in vain.

These people are susceptible of improvement by kind and conciliatory measures—you must first gain their friendship before you can do any good for them.

The Indians generally have been remarkably pacific in their relations for some time; but God only knows how long they will remain so, as war seems to be the natural element of the untaught Indian.

I would suggest the propriety of a grand council of the various tribes of the Missouri Indians. Fifty thousand could be assembled at short notice on the Vermillion, 1,000 miles above St. Louis, at

very little expense to the government, if done in the spring or summer months. And I would suggest the propriety of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and the superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, as well as the agents and sub-agents of the various tribes, being present. My opinion is, that much good could and would be effected by a meeting of this sort; and unless something of this kind is done, I fear it will be a long time before our government will succeed in putting an end to their domestic feuds and wars.

The late law of Congress, to prevent the introduction of ardent spirits into the Indian country, has had a very happy effect; and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs is certainly entitled to great praise for the vigorous efforts he has made to arrest this great evil. And should our government establish, as contemplated, a military post at Fort Larramie, every avenue will be closed for its introduction into my district of country. I am informed by the traders that since they have ceased to traffic in ardent spirits, the resources of the Indians have greatly increased, and their demand for the substantial articles of trade has augmented 200 per cent.; that the Indians enjoy much better health, look much better, and are a much better people; and that you now rarely ever hear of a murder being committed; whereas, when whiskey was plenty in the country, murder was a daily occurrence.

To more effectually guard against the introduction of, and traffic in, ardent spirits in the Indian country, I would apply the common law principle, which is laid down in Hawkins' Pleas of the Crown: "If a man does an act, of which the probable consequence may be, and eventually is, death, such killing may be murder, though no murder be primarily intended. Such is the common law principle, that if a man does an act, the reasonable probability of which is death, he is guilty of murder, although he did not intend murder." Thus is it with a man who sells or furnishes the wild Indian with intoxicating liquors—*he is a murderer*—for in this case, there is a more than reasonable probability of death; there is a certainty of death in some shape or other; and such is the view taken of it by the *Divine law*, which may be found in Exodus xxi. 29. In view of these things, I would like to see the law a little more rigid, and changed so as to hold the whiskey seller responsible for all the mischief done by the Indian while under its influence. To illustrate: should an Indian when drunk commit a wanton, wilful, and malicious murder, the man who furnished him with the means of intoxication should be held responsible and tried as an accessary to the murder, and on conviction thereof, expiate his crime and offence in the penitentiary or under the gallows.

Upon the subject of an agency house, I am of the opinion that it would be impracticable to establish one at the present time; the unsettled condition of the Indian does not require it to be done. But the necessity of a place of head-quarters, for the safe-keeping of government papers and property, is apparent. On my arrival in the country, I could not find a single paper of any description whatever—nothing that would show there ever existed such an

office as an Indian agent's. I have rented a comfortable office, and have opened a set of books, &c., the rent of which I shall expect the Department to pay, which can be done without an additional appropriation or remittance, as the sum heretofore allowed for contigencies will be sufficient for all useful purposes.

I have had great difficulty in procuring the services of a competent interpreter—one that could speak both the Indian and English languages. There are many who speak the French and Indian. I employed Henry Shattalion, a Frenchman, as interpreter from the 1st to the 30th of June, one month; and I have had the services of Louison Freniar, a half-bred Sioux, for the quarter ending on the 30th September. I found Freniar a good man, as well as a good interpreter; he is a native of the country, and a half-breed. This man I have appointed interpreter, and respectfully ask a confirmation of his appointment.

There is no necessity, in my opinion, for a military post in this country; the one contemplated at Fort Larramie will be sufficiently near for all useful purposes.

Owing to the great distance from my district of country to St. Louis, or the settlements, it will be impossible to be regular in my communications to the Department, and absolutely impossible to make my quarterly returns regularly. I must, therefore, ask the indulgence of the Department, that I may be permitted to make my returns annually instead of quarterly; and this can be a matter of but little importance, as the disbursements are almost nothing.

I have the honor to be, sir, your very obedient servant,

G. C. MATLOCK,
Indian Agent.

THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 9½.

BENT'S FORD, ARKANSAS RIVER,
September 18, 1847.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations and instructions of the Indian Department, I have the honor of submitting the following report:

I left St. Louis about the 20th of May, and proceeded to Fort Leavenworth, for the purpose of joining the first troops leaving there for Santa Fe. On my arrival at Fort Leavenworth, I ascertained that Lieutenant Love (an excellent young officer of 1st dragoons) would start in a few days for Santa Fe, in command of an escort of dragoons, furnished the paymaster in charge of the government funds. Lieutenant Love invited me to join him, which invitation I gladly accepted; and, having some further preparations to make, I repaired immediately to Westport for that purpose. Having soon completed my arrangements, I set out from

Westport, and joined the command, on the Santa Fe road, on the 10th of June, seventy-five miles from Leavenworth. We travelled along happily and with much expedition, until we arrived at Pawnee Fork, a tributary of the Arkansas river, three hundred miles from Fort Leavenworth. Here we came up with two large government trains, loaded with commissary's stores for Santa Fe, together with a few traders, who were travelling with them for protection. They had been detained at this place several days on account of high water. During their detention, and two days before our arrival, they were attacked by a large body of Indians, but sustained no loss, except one man slightly wounded. On the opposite, or west side of the stream, were also encamped a return train from Santa Fe, (empty,) and bound for Fort Leavenworth. After the unsuccessful attempt of the Indians on the east side, they dashed across the stream, and drove off, and killed nearly all the cattle belonging to the return train, and left the party without the means of hauling the wagons farther. Therefore, by the imbecility and bad management of the party, over twenty more wagons, with their necessary accoutrements, were added to the frequent losses sustained by the government on that road, and from like causes. From their own account, they had more than sufficient time to have secured the cattle within the enclosure formed by the wagons, but did not attempt to do so until they were in possession of the Indians, when it was found to be too late. The morning after our arrival at Pawnee Fork, the waters having subsided sufficiently to let the wagons pass over, all hands made preparations for a fresh start; but, before leaving, Lieutenant Love gave directions to the commanders of each train, to travel and encamp as near him as would be convenient during the remainder of the trip, or at least until they passed through the most dangerous part of it. These directions were very agreeable to one of the men in charge, but to the other, was quite the reverse; he remarked that he had already received his instructions from the quartermaster at Fort Leavenworth, and was not disposed to submit to further instructions. Lieutenant Love told him he must submit, as he would not suffer so much government property to run the risk of falling into the hands of the Indians. The fording of the stream was then commenced, and found to be slow and difficult, which operation consumed the greater part of the day; however, all passed over without any accident, and encamped on the west side of the stream in good order, and ready to pursue the journey on the morrow. The next morning all were moving in good time—Mr. Hayden (the stubborn man) in front, and a considerable distance in advance. He observed to some of his men at starting, that "if those gentlemen in the rear encamped near him that night, they would have to travel after dark." However, we travelled on rapidly, and came in sight of him near sundown, and encamped at least a mile from the Arkansas river, and out on the level plain. Lieutenant Love bore off towards the river, and encamped on its banks, being the most convenient for grass and water, as well as safest from an attack,

particularly from a party of horsemen. Lieutenant Love was by no means satisfied with the isolated position of Hayden's train, but, it being late, he concluded to let it remain for the night, with a full determination to compel him to comply with his orders for the future. The opportunity was too favorable for the Indians to let it pass without making an effort; if the Indians themselves had have made the selection of the ground, they could not have chosen a more favorable position for the accomplishment of their plans. The next morning, as soon as the cattle were turned out of the *çaral* to graze, the Indians made a charge, and succeeded in driving them off. Lieutenant Love (as was his usual practice every morning) was out at the time, on the highest point, with his spy-glass, reconnoitring the country around, before he permitted his horses to be taken out to graze; he soon discovered the difficulty at Hayden's camp, and immediately ordered his men to saddle and mount instantly; the order was soon obeyed, but just at that moment, and when Lieutenant Love was about to lead his men to the rescue, a large body of Indians, not before discovered, made a demonstration near our camp, seemingly with the intention of attacking us, which they would have certainly done, if Lieutenant Love had led off his whole command. This sudden and unexpected manœuvre of the Indians changed the intentions of Lieutenant Love, and it was that only which caused the success of the Indians that day; if Lieutenant Love had led off his command in pursuit of the Indians with the cattle, he certainly would have defeated them, and retaken the cattle. But his own camp would have been in danger of being defeated, and robbed, and he very prudently remained in it—at the same time, sending twenty-five men, under the command of a sergeant, to the assistance of Hayden. Those men charged gallantly amongst the Indians, who, by the time they reached them, were a long distance off, and not being supported by the men of Hayden's train, as was expected, were completely overpowered by numbers, and defeated, with the loss of five men killed, and six severely wounded; the remainder being obliged to make a precipitate retreat, in order to save themselves from the overwhelming numbers that surrounded them; for, by this time, many of the party which had threatened our camp, finding we were prepared for them, and not daring to attack us, dashed off at full speed, and joined the other party with the cattle. This reinforcement of the Indians proved fatal to the dragoons. Here, then, was a dilemma—five men killed, six severely wounded, thirty wagons, with their loading, left without the means of taking them to their destination, and all this arising from the stubbornness and self-will of one man. I am very certain that, if Hayden had obeyed the order of Lieutenant Love, and encamped where he should have done, no such misfortune would have happened.

At this unfortunate encampment we were obliged to remain several days, on account of the inability of the wounded to travel; but, so soon as they were sufficiently recovered to make slow and easy marches, we again set out, taking with us Hayden and his train—

the other train with us having escaped injury or accident; and having to each wagon five and six strong yoke of oxen, were divided out equally, according to the weight to be hauled, some with two yoke, others again with three. In this way, averaging from five to eight miles a day, we reached the government depot, now called Fort Mann, twenty-five miles below the crossing of the Arkansas river. At this place, I intended to remain until an opportunity offered to go to Bent's Fort; but, finding Fort Mann abandoned, and a perfect wreck, I gave up the idea of halting, and, as there was no other resource, continued on to Santa Fe, where we arrived, without any further occurrence worthy of notice, on the 6th of August, just two months from Leavenworth. Mr. Hayden, his party, and whole train, were left in deposite at Fort Mann, with instructions to remain until relief could be sent him.

I feel a strong disposition to say something in regard to the condition of New Mexico; however, I presume it has been represented by more experienced and abler hands. Yet, I doubt much whether the government is in full possession of all the facts, or at all aware of the deplorable condition of that country. The Indians are ravaging the territory throughout, murdering and carrying off the inhabitants to a much greater extent than heretofore; and what would seem very strange, they carry their hostilities (except when they want presents, and then they are as gentle as lambs,) almost within gun shot of the head-quarters of the army of the west.

The state of discipline amongst the volunteers, the efficiency of the officers of the law civil and military, and which of the two have the prerogative, or whether either exists—on all those matters I am unable to decide, or give an opinion. It has been matter of surprise to many, that in a country so healthy and salubrious, and with so gentle a climate as New Mexico, so many volunteers should die of disease. Let those wonderers pay a visit to Santa Fe, and remain one week, as I have done, and observe the life there led, day and night, and they will be still more astonished that so many have lived. I remained in Santa Fe one week, when I found an opportunity of getting to my destination, in company with some volunteers whose term of service had expired, and who chose to pass by this place, where I arrived on the 29th August, being over three months from Saint Louis getting to my destination. Before leaving Santa Fe, I met with the man whom I had all along intended to engage as interpreter for the Chyennes and Aripohoes, he having been in charge at Fort Mann at the time of its abandonment, and the garrison being reduced to seven men, he was obliged, like myself, to keep with the current of travel, and got to Santa Fe a short time before us. I engaged him for three months only, at twenty-five dollars per month, for the purpose of making an excursion with me amongst the Chyennes and Aripohoes. This is the only way that men of that description can be engaged for the sum that the Department allows for that purpose; and it is only when they are disengaged that they can be had on such terms—the traders paying them more for the winter's trade,

besides finding them in provisions, &c., than the Department allows for the whole year. However, under the present circumstances, and while so many different tribes are to be dealt with, all speaking different tongues, the mode I have adopted, and intend for the future to adopt, is the best and most economical. Good interpreters value their services in this country at a high rate; but no man, of any kind, could be hired here at three hundred dollars per annum, without provisioning him also. Soon after my arrival here, I had a very satisfactory interview with a large portion of the Chyennes, and a few of the Aripohoes, who, on hearing of my arrival, hastened to see me, no doubt expecting to receive presents, but in that they were sadly disappointed. I directed the chiefs and braves to assemble in council, which they soon did, and by the assistance and kindness of the people of this fort, I was enabled to provide them with a feast of bread, coffee, &c., which is always expected by those Indians on such occasions. After the feasting was ended, I made them a speech, in which I explained the object of my visit amongst them, and the kind intentions of the United States government towards them, as well as towards the Aripohoes, Sioux, and all Indians who conducted themselves in a peaceable and proper manner towards us, as well as each other. I also told them that I was particularly instructed by their great father to ascertain what Indians were engaged in plundering and robbing travellers on the Santa Fe road, and throughout the country, in order that when he sent his soldiers into the country, the innocent should not suffer equally with the guilty. In fact, I explained to them the policy and intentions of the government towards Indians generally, and that their great father was disposed to treat them more like his children than like enemies; but that there were some things which he could not overlook, and these were, the murdering and plundering his people—the perpetrators of which would be speedily and severely punished. I reminded them of the great diminution and continual decrease of all game, and advised them to turn their attention to agriculture, it being the only means to save them from destruction. I pointed out and enumerated the many evils arising from the use of spiritous liquors, and advised them to abandon altogether so degrading and abominable a practice.

In reply to what I had said, one of the principal chiefs (Yellow Wolf) spoke as follows: "My father, your words are very good; the Chyennes all hear and cherish them, and those that are absent shall hear and remember them also. My father, we are very poor and ignorant, even like the wolves in the prairie; we are not endowed with the wisdom of the white people. Father, this day we rejoice; we are no more poor and wretched; our great father has at length condescended to notice us, poor and wretched as we are; we now know we shall live and prosper, therefore we rejoice. My father, we have not been warring against your people; why should we? on the contrary, if our great father wishes our aid, the Chyenne warriors shall be ready at a moment's warning to assist in punishing those bad people, the Comanches." Here I interrupted

him, saying that their great father had plenty of soldiers at his command—moreover, it was not his wish to embroil his red children in war with each other—on the contrary, he wished to see them unite in harmonious brotherhood. He continued—"Tell our great father that the Chyennes are ready and willing to obey him in every thing; but, in settling down and raising corn, that is a thing we know nothing about, and if he will send some of his people to learn us, we will at once commence, and make every effort to live like the whites. We have long since noticed the decrease of the buffalo, and are well aware it cannot last much longer. Tell him also," he said, "that the white people, a short time ago, killed one of our wisest and best chiefs; that the tears of the orphans and relatives of the deceased chief are not yet dried up; yet we still remain the friends of the whites." A government train of wagons passing early last spring, and arriving at the Arkansas river, were discovered by a party of Chyennes returning from the Comanches. The chief of the party, (Old Tobacco,) who has always been considered a good Indian, and very friendly to all Americans, determined to apprise the party thus discovered, of the near vicinity, and hostile intentions, of the Comanches. On entering the camp of the whites for that purpose, he was fired upon and severely wounded, and died of his wounds five days after. Before dying, he called his family and relatives together, and told them not to avenge his death; that his friends had killed him without knowing who he was. What is meant by drying up tears is, payment for the dead man; it is a custom of all the Indians of this country to demand payment for all such occurrences, whether it happens by accident or design. When a refusal to pay is given, and when the case is between different tribes, war ensues; if the occurrence has taken place between families of the same tribe, payment or retaliation is the consequence, and not unfrequently leads to a separation of the tribe. Therefore, under all those circumstances, had I means and power, I would have dried the fountain from which flowed their tears for the deceased chief.

On the conclusion of the "big talk" with the Chyennes, I addressed myself more particularly to the Aripohoes, who were present, remarking that all they heard, applied equally to them as well as all other Indians who conducted in a peaceable and proper manner, and asked what they had to say in reply. They said, "their ears were open and heard all, but could make no answer at present, inasmuch as they knew not the sentiments of their tribe; moreover, that some of their people had already joined the Comanches against the Americans, which he much regretted; therefore, he was ashamed to talk." I advised him to send for his people, and all might yet be well; he promised to do so. I purchased some tobacco and distributed it amongst them, and then adjourned the council.

I do not wish to be understood as placing much confidence in the profession of the Indians of this country; neither do I in those of any other. Circumstances and necessity may seem to change their

disposition; but ingratitude, low, mean cunning, cowardice, selfishness and treachery, are the characteristics of the whole race. Yet I believe the Chyennes are serious in their professions of friendship; they plainly see what must befal them on the extinction of game, and therefore wish to court the favor of the United States government, hoping to obtain assistance. Many of them appear very desirous to commence raising corn, but I fear the effort will be found too laborious for them, unless they are encouraged and assisted. If the government wishes those Indians to settle down, they must give them some assistance, at least towards a beginning. A few dollars expended with those who are now willing to commence, might work some good, and be the means of inducing others to follow the example; and by the time the buffalo is all gone, those Indians will be prepared to live without them.

The Chyennes claim this river and the surrounding country, without any definite or defined limits; and, together with the Aripohoes and Sioux, occupy indiscriminately the whole country along the eastern base of the Rocky mountains, from the northern frontier of New Mexico up to the Missouri river, without regard to lines or limitations of boundary; and sometimes they extend their war and hunting excursions across the mountains, into the country of the Snake and Utawa Indians—as well as south into New Mexico, east down the Arkansas, Kansas, Platte and Missouri, to almost the very borders of our western settlements.

The Chyenne Indians, from the best authority, will not number over 280 lodges, and not exceeding 500 warriors. The Aripohoes, from a like source of information, are about 350 lodges, and can raise 800 warriors. The Sioux Indians of the north fork of Platte, and who roam in this country also, are about 800 lodges, and can turn out from 2,000 to 2,500 warriors; the average number of the Sioux to each lodge is greater than those of the others.

The above Indians are all immediately in this agency, and may, by proper management, and by keeping liquor from amongst them, be kept quiet and tranquil. The Aripohoes are most to be dreaded, not on account of their superior bravery and courage, as they do not excel the others in that respect; but they are becoming very insolent of late, arising, no doubt, from the frequent defeats of the whites on the Santa Fe road, and perhaps they think that they could be as successful as the Comanches.

The Comanches and Kiaway Indians have been making endeavors to induce those here to join them in the war, representing the great advantages as well as the profits, without incurring the least risk. They have represented the whites who travel the Santa Fe road as easily killed as elk or buffalo, and not at all to be compared with the Texans. This is the Comanches's report to the Chyennes and Aripohoes, who have told me of it.

I received information, a few days ago, from the north fork of Platte, that a man by the name of John Ruchare, or Richarde, had been selling liquor to the Indians all summer. This same John Richarde is notorious in this country for violating the law in that

respect, and has been known to declare frequently that he would continue to do so in defiance of all law, and in despite of all the agents the government might send into the country.

It is 380 miles from this to Fort Larramie, on the north fork of Platte, in the vicinity of which those violations of law are carried on. I shall leave here in a short time for the purpose of visiting Mr. Richarde, as well as some others who sometimes follow the same occupation; and, if I had a few men with me, and under my control, I would soon teach these gentlemen that a compliance with the law was the most profitable course. But being alone, and without means, not even for the hiring of a few Indians to assist and accompany me, it cannot be expected that I can accomplish all that is required by the Department. However, I shall endeavor as far as possible to fulfil my instructions, and will start for the north fork in a few days, or at least as soon as I can find an opportunity to forward this document. At Fort Larramie, I hope to find United States troops, who will assist me in putting down this abominable practice. I have no apprehension about the large traders and men of capital, such as Pierre Chouteau, jr. & Co., nor from this establishment, (Bent's.) Those two, being the principal traders in the country, have long since ascertained that the traffic in spirituous liquors was becoming very unprofitable, and therefore have, I believe, discontinued it altogether; and, I have no doubt, would willingly assist in putting it down. This laudable change in their business has not emanated from a regard for the law, nor from philanthropic motives, but from the fact of its becoming a great nuisance, and very dangerous to those having large investments in the trade, and whose expenses were heavy; and, not being able to compete successfully with the numerous small traders who infest the country, and whose expenses were comparatively nothing—whose whole stock in trade amounted to only a few trinkets and three or four hundred gallons of liquor, procured on the Missouri frontier, New Mexico, or of the Hudson Bay Company. The above causes, together with the great diminution of the proceeds of the Indian hunts, arising out of so much of their time being spent in drunkenness and debauch, have caused this great change.

I have been thus particular in showing the causes of its declination, not for the purpose of making it appear unnecessary to guard against it in future; on the contrary, to advise increased vigilance in order to prevent its revival.

It is greatly to be regretted that so little attention has been paid to the laws regulating intercourse with the Indians, as great evils have arisen from their neglect; and I know of none greater than permitting the licensed trader to take so many men of bad and desperate character into the country, and at the expiration, or before their term of service expires, casting them adrift amongst the Indians. It is by this class of men that great mischief has been done, and the law violated, as well while in the service of the traders as afterwards.

Many of those men not being American citizens, but Canadians,

Mexicans, and Europeans, are not satisfied with violating the laws, but have been known to make and cause great mischief, by inciting the Indians against the government and people of the United States. Perhaps the evil does not exist now to such an extent as formerly, as there is not the same amount of business done, and therefore not the same number of men required.

About seventy-five miles above this place, and immediately on the Arkansas river, there is a small settlement, the principal part of which is composed of old trappers and hunters; the male part of it are mostly Americans, Missouri French, Canadians, and Mexicans. They have a tolerable supply of cattle, horses, mules, &c.; and I am informed that this year they have raised a good crop of wheat, corn, beans, pumpkins, and other vegetables. They number about 150 souls, and of this number there are about 60 men, nearly all having wives, and some have two. These wives are of various Indian tribes, as follows, viz: Blackfoot, Assineboines, Arickarees, Sioux, Aripohoes, Chyennes, Pawnees, Snake, Sinpach, (from west of the Great lake,) Chinock, (from the mouth of Columbia,) Mexicans, and Americans. The American women are Mormons; a party of Mormons having wintered there, and, on their departure for California, left behind two families. These people are living in two separate establishments near each other; one called "Paublo," and the other "Hard-scrabble;" both villages are fortified by a wall 12 feet high, composed of *adobe*, (sun-dried brick.) Those villages are becoming the resort of all idlers and loafers. They are also becoming depots for the smugglers of liquor from New Mexico into this country; therefore they must be watched.

The Comanche and Kiaway Indians are those who have been infesting and marauding on the Santa Fe road all summer and spring; but, from information received from the Chynnes and Aripohoes, are now gone south. There are also a few of the Aripohoes with them, and, in my opinion, some of our Missouri frontier Indians, either Delawares or Osages, or both. One Delaware who made his escape from Taos, after the battle of that place, has been known to have spent the spring and part of the summer amongst the Comanches. At Taos he fought desperately against the Americans, and is supposed to have killed the gallant Captain Burgwin, and three or four of the regulars, who were shot down in the assault on the church. After the defeat of the insurgents, he made his escape from that country, came out to the Arkansas river, where he found the Chyennes, told them what had happened at Taos, and that in the battle he killed five Americans. He used every effort in his power to induce the Chyennes to join him in a war against the whites, representing them as bad people, and the ruin of all Indians. This argument having failed, he remained but one night, and started the next morning for the Comanches. This Delaware, who is well known in this country by the name of "Big Negro," is now at home near Westport. He arrived there a short time since, and had in his possession a rifle known to have belonged to a man by the name of Tharp, who was killed in June on Walnut creek,

near the Arkansas river. The fact of his having this rifle in his possession is sufficient proof that he has been warring against us; at any rate, he is well known to have taken an active part against us in the insurrection of Taos. He has now gone to the States, no doubt for the purpose of getting supplies and inducing more of his tribe to join him. Such vagabonds should be looked after, as they are much to be dreaded, and may cause great trouble in this country. They should be prevented from intermingling with the Indians as much as possible.

I am of the opinion that the government should at once put forth strong and energetic measures for the subjugation of those Indians who have been committing so many depredations during the past two years. Commencing in good time (and whatever is done, let it be done effectually, as no temporizing policy will answer) will prevent others from entering on a like course, and awe them at once into a state of tranquility. This is not mere supposition; on the contrary, I am convinced that by teaching any one of those formidable tribes a good lesson, would be sufficient instruction for the whole of those on the east side of the Rocky mountains.

The lenient and temporizing policy which the government has always pursued with Indians on our western borders, and those living heretofore within the now boundary of the Union, will not do with the Indians inhabiting this great expanse of desert. In the case of the former, disagreements would frequently arise, and war ensue; but, before much blood was shed, on came the tides of emigration so numerous, and in such rapid succession, that what was expected to have become the scene of war, became that of peace, tranquility, and civilization. I am fully convinced that the force of emigration has done more towards the settling and tranquilizing the Indians than anything else.

In this country it is far otherwise. Here is an immense desert, inhabited by many wild, roaming, and formidable tribes of savages, whose occupation is war and the plundering of their fellow men. And, inasmuch as the country they inhabit is altogether unfit for a civilized population, the savages now in occupation must always remain it. This desert and its inhabitants, intervening as they do between our late territorial acquisition and the United States, require the particular attention of government, or what would be much more advantageous, of an efficient military force, merely for the purpose of teaching the inhabitants thereof that we are their superiors in war as well as in every thing else. This lesson once taught, and our ability and willingness to punish insult and injury shown, I repeat, is all that is required to make the inhabitants of this country quiet and peaceable. I am well aware that the intentions of the government towards the Indians are conciliatory and humane. But those of this country who know not our strength, and attribute our forbearance to a dread of their great prowess, must be dealt with in precisely the opposite manner; which I hold to be the most judicious and economical, as it will be a great saving of blood and expenditure of money; and is, on the whole, the most philanthro-

pic. Let them know they cannot pursue a marauding life with impunity, and they will soon turn their attention to something else.

I have entertained ardent and strong hopes that, inasmuch as the subjugation of the Indian tribes of this country would be considered a very peculiar service, a very peculiar force, and otherwise organized than that composing the army of the west, would be raised for that purpose. But I perceive it is otherwise, and that the same system, (that of the men electing their officers,) and all the evils arising out of that system, is still continued. I have no hesitation in saying that they will not answer the purpose required, for reasons, some of which I will give: The service being the most arduous, difficult, and of a very peculiar nature, will require great skill and experience in the management of a campaign, as well as a complete knowledge of the Indian character, habits, manners, and customs; and, above all, a thorough acquaintance with their mode and manner of warfare. Those are rare qualifications, and not likely to be selected out of a set of aspirants by those who know or think nothing about the capacity of their leader. It is only after they commence military duty, and on the march to New Mexico, that they find out they did not elect the proper candidate. Then follows a petition to the officer to resign; next a refusal of the officer to comply; then follows dissatisfaction, disgust for the service, and insubordination, which very naturally ensue, as men, dislike very much to obey an order coming from an officer whom they consider unfit to command. Under these circumstances, they arrive in Santa Fe, dispirited, and, together with their horses, broken down and unfit for service, at least for a time. This should not be, nor would it, if men of experience had the command. They have a very excellent road from Fort Leavenworth all the way to Santa Fe, with plenty of grass and water at proper distances, except a few days on the Cimerrane; yet they cannot accomplish the trip without the utmost difficulty. Now, let me ask how, under all those circumstances, such a force can ever accomplish the subjugation of the Comanches and Kiaway Indians, who are represented (and truly) as very expert horsemen, and almost continually on the move, whose flight (when necessary) across and over the desert is like unto the flight of birds over dreary and barren wastes which they inhabit, and in which lies their strength and security more than in any thing else.

I do not wish to be understood as casting reproach or reflection on the volunteers in mass; on the contrary, I have a high opinion of the material of which they are composed; it is the system of officer-making that I am opposed to. It is a want of the proper knowledge of the enemy they will have to contend with; it is a want of a proper knowledge of the best and safest mode of campaigning in the country—those are what I most dread. Show those men the enemy and they will do their duty; but I doubt much their ever getting a sight within striking distance; the enemy, however, will frequently strike them, when least expected and unprepared.

I will now show the kind of force which I should like to see

organized and ready for service in this country, and at this time: 250 mounted riflemen, armed with short and handy rifles, not too heavy; one hundred well disciplined dragoons; one hundred Mexicans, armed with lances and a pair of horse-pistols, mounted on their own native horses; and two or three mountain howitzers, with a few men to manage them. Let all, then, be put under the command of an experienced officer, who understands well the nature of his duty in every particular, who would in a short time accomplish the desired object.

Of the 250 riflemen, I would have as many procured in this country as could be had. They would soon teach the others the real art of campaigning, and infuse a spirit of cheerfulness and contentment, which is rarely to be found amongst "green-horns;" they would also show an example of obedience and subordination which they well know how to appreciate, as well as practice. One hundred active and efficient Mexicans can be easily obtained for a service of the kind, and when serving and uniting in concert with Americans, will be found brave and daring to a fault, and cannot be excelled in the whole world for a service of the kind; of this I have had many proofs and long experience.

I received an order through your office from the adjutant general at Washington, on the commanding officer at Bent's Fort, for the Indian goods which were left there last year in deposite. I presented the order to Captain McKisick, acting quartermaster at Santa Fe, who informed me that the goods had all been taken to Santa Fe, and mostly distributed, no doubt to those Indians who are now devastating the country. This I consider bad policy, and well calculated to keep the Indians in a state of hostility; by such a course they have two sources of gain, and are very apt to take advantage of both. For my own part, I must state, that I have and will labor under disadvantages and embarrassments for the want of at least a part of those goods, which were distributed so liberally amongst the vagabond Indians of New Mexico. Any one at all acquainted with the character of the Indians of this country must know how difficult it is to get along without some means, even as an inducement for them to collect together for any purpose. The fact is, they have been greatly corrupted by the traders, in the great competition in trade, which existed here for the past eight years. The Chyennes have wondered that their great father has not sent them something, as a token of regard for their good behavior, and at the same time remark, that it was only those Indians who were in the habit of plundering the whites that ever get any thing in that way. The above remarks were not made to me, but reported by others. However, I believe it to be the impression of many Indians; and for that reason, I hold it the duty of every officer intrusted with the management of such affairs to be very particular in the distribution of presents to Indians.

There are many more subjects in regard to this country and its inhabitants of which I would have gladly spoken, but I fear I have already become tedious and tiresome in the length of this

report; but that has arisen from the great interest which I feel in every thing which concerns the far west.

I should have written sooner, and oftener, but my isolated position here affords but few opportunities; and even now the time of the departure of this report is very uncertain.

Should any thing worthy of notice occur during my journey to the north fork of the Platte, I will write again from that place.

I am now in a state of recovery from a very severe indisposition, which attacked me on my way from Santa Fe to this place, and caused great debilitation and nervousness, which I hope will be an apology for the inaccuracies which may be found in this communication.

I intend to visit St. Louis early in the spring, or as soon as the winter trade is over; at which time I will arrange my accounts. The uncertainty of travel, and the dangers of the road, have prevented me from sending them with this.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

THOMAS FITZPATRICK,
Indian Agent, Upper Platte and Arkansas.

To THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs,
St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 10.

ST. PETER'S INDIAN AGENCY,
September 15, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of this agency:

The Mandawakanton Sioux of this agency (who alone of all the Sioux of this agency receive any annuity from government) have heretofore and still manifest and express the most cordial good will towards the government and whites; and, with very few exceptions, towards their red neighbors. In the unfortunate affair with their Winnebago neighbors last spring, there were but a few of the above bands engaged. The whole of the responsibility has been thrown on their shoulders, when in fact the larger number of those engaged in the business are suffered to escape unpunished. In consequence of the treaty made by the Sioux chiefs with the Winnebagoes, the whole of the burden falls upon the Mandawakantons; and, as but two of the bands had any hand in that affair, they think it hard to be made to pay the penalty which should, as they say, be borne by the Wahkpakootas, who had more than two to one in the party that committed the outrage. Agreeably to the list furnished by the chiefs and head men of the villages of the Mandawakantons this

season, they number 2,135. The amount of sickness this season has considerably lessened this number. The deaths reported amount to 148. The whooping cough carried off a number of children this summer, since which the bilious fever and cholera morbus has prevailed and taken off a large number of grown persons. The following is the number of deaths that has occurred in the several villages of the Mandawakanton Sioux, as reported.

Black Dog's village	13
Goosroad's village	29
Little Crow's village	10
Red Wing's village	23
Sixes' village	37
Lake Calhoun village	36
Total	148

Wahbashaw's village has escaped the scourge. Although a large number of this village have been sick with ague and fever, there have been no deaths up to this date. The other villages are generally convalescent. There are still a number of cases of fever and ague prevailing.

The stopping of the provisions, consequent upon the difficulty with the Winnebagoes, has been severely felt by the Sioux, coming upon them at a time of such general distress, and at a season of the year when they were in the habit of living almost entirely upon the provisions received from government. The orders to withhold the provisions I viewed as imperative; still I could not do otherwise than assist the officers of the fort, the traders, farmers, and missionaries, generally, in their exertions to alleviate as much as possible the sufferings of the Sioux, by having some of the flour baked into good wholesome bread and distributed to the sick and convalescent.

The farmers generally report an average crop of corn; but owing to the sickness of the Sioux, a great part of the corn crop has been destroyed by the blackbirds.

The condition of the upper Sioux has been far more favorable the past year. Buffalo, about the head of St. Peter's river, have been much more abundant than usual, which is to be acounted for by the fact that the prairies farther north were burned over, so that these animals were driven to seek subsistence in a more southern region. Whether they will remain through the coming winter or return towards the Red river, cannot now be predicted; but the general impression is, that they will take the latter course. Should this be the case, the upper Indians will doubtless suffer great privation, especially as large bands of Sioux of the plains have been furnished with corn by the Sissetons of Lac Traverse; by which improvidence on the part of the latter, their winter supply of this important article will be materially curtailed.

I am happy to say that the energetic measures taken by the com-

manding officer at Fort Snelling, in seizing large quantities of liquor in the hands of some of the upper Indians, who came down and crossed to the ceded land in Wisconsin to procure it, has had a very good effect upon the Indians generally. They have been deterred, in many instances, thereby, from coming down to get whiskey, when they otherwise would have transported large quantities far into the country. In many cases, the regularly licensed traders are confounded with dealers in whiskey, under the general name of traders. This is doing great injustice to those men who are legally in the country, and who generally do all in their power to exclude liquor from the Indian territory. The force at Fort Snelling must be increased, if it is expected that the general military police of the country can be properly attended to. There is but one company of infantry to guard a frontier of hundreds of miles; and, however efficient they may be, the number is entirely too small to effect the object which the government has in view in checking, in the bud, any evil which may eventually involve the peace of the whole northwest.

The Hudson's Bay Company of Red river have, within a few months, been guilty of a gross violation of our soil, which I deem it my duty to bring to the notice of the government. Mr. Kittson, a gentleman of veracity, who is in charge of the Fur Company's trading post at Pambina, near the British line, stated that two men deserted from the detachment of British regulars stationed at Fort Garey, (Red river,) and came to his post, asking to be employed until an opportunity offered for them to reach the States. Mr. Kittson positively refused to have anything to do with them, except so far as to furnish them with food, and strongly advised them to return to their post. This they refused to do; and Mr. Kittson was surprised, shortly afterwards, at the appearance of a detachment (*armed*) of the Hudson's Bay Company's police, the leader of which stated to Mr. Kittson that he had come to apprehend the two men, and asked him (Mr. Kittson) if he would resist the attempt. Mr. Kittson, in reply, stated that he protested against such a violation of American soil; but that he would not interfere by force to prevent the accomplishment of their object, as he had neither the power nor the authority to do so. The armed party thereupon seized upon the two deserters, took them to Fort Garey, where they were delivered to the custody of the commanding officer, and punished, by severe lashing, according to the custom of the British army. The whole proceedings manifest a gross disregard of the sanctity of our soil, and, I think, deserve the notice of our government. The effect of such illegal and high-handed measures is particularly bad upon the different tribes of Indians who become cognizant of them, as they are led to think the United States unable to resist or punish intruders upon our territory.

The $300 worth of ammunition and fish spears, fish lines and hooks, for the use of the Sisseton Sioux of Big Stone lake and lake Traverse, is still on hand—not having been called for; but the prospect for the coming winter is unfavorable, and the neces-

sity of the Indians will probably be as great or greater than the last season. If it is the pleasure of the Department, the above articles will afford them a great relief during the winter and ensuing spring, and I would respectfully recommend that they be given to them this fall.

I would call the attention of the Department to the fact that there is a band of Chippewas, called the Pillagers, who reside *on Otter Tail lake*, who have, from time immemorial, carried on a war against the Sioux, and who have done all in their power to excite the Mississippi Chippewas to violate the treaty of peace made with the Mandakawanton Sioux. This band causes much trouble, by their frequent hostile parties penetrating into the Sioux country, sometimes as far as St. Peter's river, and, murdering one or two, immediately flee to their own home. Some time in July last, two or three came down, and killed a woman of Goosroad's band in sight of the village, and succeeded in making their escape, although hotly pursued for some distance.

The Sioux of Lacque Parle, some time since, fell upon a party belonging to the Pillagers, and killed seven of them. This is almost the only instance of the Sioux killing any of that band for years. The above facts I had the honor of communicating to the Department shortly after they took place.

The Sioux returned from the Winnebago village, where they went to treat with them, and arrange their difficulties. Two lodges of Wahkpakoota Sioux, living on Canon river, were killed by (as the Indians think) the Pottowatomies, as they were returning home from the Winnebago village, where they had left them.

The farmer belonging to Wabashaw's band reported to me, on the first of the month, that the Winnebagoes had killed all of the oxen (fourteen in number) belonging to that band. The chief informed me that the chief of the Winnebagoes acknowledges the fact of their killing twelve, and that they were willing to pay for them. I immediately despatched the farmer to the sub-agent, to notify him of the facts, and request him to have the same number returned to that band.

Since the Sioux have settled the difficulty with the Winnebagoes for the outrage committed by a few young and foolish men and boys, they have frequently expressed their regret that it should have taken place, and manifest a desire to remain on their former friendly terms; at least, this is the wish of the principal chiefs and soldiers of the Sioux who have expressed an opinion on the subject.

I am sorry to have to report that the habits of the Sioux, if any change has been made, are rather worse than better; their fondness for whiskey is ultimately to be their destruction. The facility of procuring this article, I have little doubt, has been, and will in future be, the death of a great number.

The mortality which has prevailed in the different bands has, in some instances, been promoted by the use of whiskey or other intoxicating liquors. I have heard of some instances where Indians

were attacked with fever, and during the time the fever was at its height, they have resorted to drinking. The result might easily be predicted; the next day, or at farthest two, they were dead!

I herewith transmit the report of the Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Williamson, of Little Crow's village; the report of Messrs. Hopkins and Higgins, of the Traverse des Sioux mission school; the report of the Rev. Mr. S. R. Riggs; of the Lacque Parle mission school, and, also, the report of Mr. Hopkins, of Traverse des Sioux, dated April, 1847.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AMOS J. BRUCE, *Indian Agent.*

Maj. T. H. Harvey,
Superintendent, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 11.

Council Bluffs Agency,
September 10, 1847.

Sir: Under the regulations of the War Department it becomes my duty to make known to that Department the condition of the Indian tribes in this agency.

I arrived here on the 9th of October, 1846. My first interview was with the Ottoes and Missourias. Their village is situated some ten miles from Bellevue on the great Platte. They are divided into six bands, and each band has its chief. Three of the bands live on the north in one village, and the other three live on the south of the Platte in three separate villages. There is one chief who is considered as head, and is consulted as such in all important matters. On my first talk, they told me that they were very poor, and complained that they had no ploughs, nor no person to learn them how to work, for a long time, in consequence of which they had but little corn. They were anxiously waiting the arrival of their annuity, as they could not go out on their fall's hunt until they received it. From unavoidable causes this was not paid until about the first of November. Owing to their late start on the hunt, the agent was compelled to kill for them a larger quantity of beef than he would otherwise have done. When I use the word compelled, I do not wish to be understood that I was at all in any personal danger, but I knew these people were starving, and knew that even white men, with all their civilization, strengthened by Christianity, were not entirely scrupulous about legal rights when they, their wives and children were starving. Of course we could, or should not, expect more of the wild man. They made a tolerable hunt of deer, and caught a great deal of fur. One of their traders informed me that he thought their hunt was worth $2,000.

I suggested to the superintendent at St. Louis the propriety of employing a certain number of hands by the month, for some three months, to farm for the Ottoes and Missourias. I received a communication on the subject, stating that my views of farming for them

were approved, and that I was authorized to hire six men, with two good farm horses each, and to allow $30 per month each. They were accordingly employed for the term of three months. We met with a difficulty at the start. The Indians, it will be remembered, live on either side of the river. They have had a large farm in a partial state of cultivation on the north side of the Platte. They have had many jars and difficulties. In one of these they killed several of their tribe, and one of their best chiefs about it, and are very jealous of each other. They have not exceeding 50 acres at this time on the north side of the river, and that in detached parcels. In consequence of these things, the Indians on the south side of the Platte refused to have any corn raised for them on the north side; at the same time promising, if I would send three of the farmers over to their side, they would furnish a craft and aid the men in crossing and re-crossing the river. On that promise, three of the farmers crossed and built themselves a shanty. The Indians, on their part, complied in part with their promises until about the last of May, when they became very lazy about crossing the river; and about the first of June, the chiefs all left on a visit to the Iowa Indians, some distance below here. Shortly after their departure, some of the young men broke the lock and forced the door of the farmers' shanty open and stole all their provisions, not leaving them one article of food. They remained in that situation until they dug a canoe. All things considered, it was thought advisable to dismiss the three hands on the south side of the river, as there was no certainty that they could possibly labor to profit. On the north side the farmers worked some 50 acres of corn, which at present promises a plentiful crop, so far as observation and experience will go, which, by the by, are not very bad teachers. I am satisfied that if the Ottoes and Missourias had ploughs and gearing, that, with the aid of some person to assist them in gearing, &c. &c., they could do well, and will make more corn than will be made by their farmers. The idea of Indians working when they can get white men to work for them, is as vain as it is futile. The chiefs promised me that they would furnish their farmers some young men to remain with them and learn to work. After their corn was planted, you could scarcely ever see an Indian in the field, and at no time but very few men. There are difficulties in getting Indians to work with white men, situated as they now are. The white man has his bread and meat, &c., while the Indian has to depend on a very different mode of subsistence, and often precarious. If he has corn, it has to be pounded to a kind of meal, or boiled; perhaps to resort to roots, or to angle or hunt for his food. The Ottoes are brave Indians. Like all other Indians, they are fond of ardent spirits, though I believe they do not run after it as some others do. Horses are their only stock, having neither cattle nor hogs. They express desires of having this kind of stock at present. I would doubt the propriety of government doing much for them on that subject at this time, as they have some young men that would kill and steal them on first sight. Their smith renders them great service. He has made, the present year, or twelve months past, 300 axes, 100 tom-

ahawks, 100 hoes, 45 tin kettles, 29 tin cups, 25 hand shovels, together with a great deal of other work, such as fire steels, butcher knives, cold chisels, repairing guns, &c., &c. But very few iron kettles have been made by the smiths in this agency, owing to the fact that the sheet-iron sent up last fall was so inferior that it could not be worked.

The Ottoes and Missourias number about twelve hundred. They have an annuity of $2,500 annually.

Omahas.—This tribe of Indians lives at present in about 5 miles from Bellevue, on a small water course, called the Passio. This tribe is very poor; they have no annuity from government, except blacksmith and striker; they are very anxious to sell part of their land, so as to provide themselves with arms; they are scarce of fire-arms, and suffer greatly from their inveterate enemy, the Sioux, who appear to be determined to exterminate the Omahas, Ottoes, and Pawnees. They have killed in the last year about eighty Omahas. This tribe would wish to live some 70 or 80 miles above this place, on a tract of country where they formerly have lived, but the Sioux were so hostile and numerous that they could not remain there. They have suffered from the chills and fevers since they came down here a great deal. On my arrival here last October, I found several sick; I had brought some medicine for my own use; I visited some three lodges; they exhibited not the picture but the *fact*, of misery and want; in one of these I found two blind squaws, and one other almost helpless from age. In one side of the lodge there was a young man, to all appearance very low; on examining, I found the disease was bordering on typhus; I gave him quinine freely, and he commenced mending immediately. I believe there was no instance where they took quinine freely but what they recovered. The quantity I had was small, being only for my own use, as before stated, and I was blessed with health, and, consequently, needed none. I have troubled you with this digression merely to show that a very small outlay for medicine would save much suffering, and many lives. The same diseases in an Indian require the same treatment that would be required in similar cases in the white race.

These were once a considerable tribe, but from the ravages of cholera, small-pox and wars, they are reduced to but little more than one thousand. At present there are a great many children among them. If the government would establish a post anywhere near the Missouri river, some distance above the mouth of the Platte, on the south side of the Missouri river, it would afford protection to the Omahas, Ottoes and Poncas; this, with one at Grand island, would embrace the Pawnees also. The idea of a station at Table creek, or Fort Harney, and then christened with the name of protection—protection for what? Not the Indians. Some of the knowing ones have urged as a reason that the Platte river is so difficult of crossing, that it would embarrass the troops; *that*, in my humble opinion, is one of the strongest reasons why it should be above the Platte. The Sioux living north of the Platte; where do the small tribes live, the Omahas, Poncas, Pawnees,

and most of the Ottoes? Why, north of the Platte? Then, if the fort is south of the Platte, it is protection in name only. There is no scarcity of suitable situations near this place, (Bellevue;) there is good water, soil and timber, with one or two good mill-streams, on each of which there is an excellent mill-seat. Above this place, about 15 miles, on the south side of the river, the Mormons have an excellent overshot mill, and from 300 to 500 acres of prairie broken up and mostly all in sod corn, &c., &c. They speak of leaving next spring, and would be glad to get something for their mill, &c. I would remark that there is an unsettled dispute between the Ottoes and Omahas about a part of their lands; of this the Department has been informed by the superintendent, in his communications of September 10, 1845, and September 5, 1846. In addition to what the superintendent has said on the subject, permit me to remark that the government, according to treaty stipulations, is bound to build a horse-mill for the Ottoes, which would be of but little use to them. There is an excellent stream, with several good mill-seats, convenient to these two tribes. It would not be more than four miles from the school that is now being established by the Rev. E. McKinney, per order of the Presbyterian board of missions, for the benefit of the children of these two tribes. Much depends on the success of this institution, and it should be sanctioned and supported by every philanthropist, and all who have any feelings for suffering humanity. I brought before the Ottoe chiefs, for their consideration, the propriety of uniting their educational fund with the Presbyterian mission fund, for the purpose of establishing a permanent school in their vicinity, which seems to meet their cordial approbation. With a little addition of funds to the horse-mill fund, there might be an excellent water-mill built, which would be calculated to unite them more permanently in feeling, and be a strong inducement for them to settle down in agricultural pursuits, and cease their roaming, or they otherwise must perish, as that will be their ultimate doom, for it will be impossible for them to procure a subsistence by the chase long, as the buffalo are fast disappearing.

It is near two years since the Omahas moved down here. There is another source of trouble with these Indians. There is a large body of the Latter Day Saints, or Mormons, stationed on their lands. Although they consented to let these people remain in their country the last winter, (1846–'47,) they say they expected them to prosecute their journey last spring, and leave their country. There has been one Mormon killed by Indians; the Mormons charge it on the Omahas. There has been no investigation of the occurrence, from the fact that the agent was absent on business at St. Louis, and, since his arrival, the Indians have been on the hunt. The interpreter states that he apprehends that there will be difficulties between the Indians and Mormons, if they remain on their lands. The Indians have killed a great many of their cattle, and plead justification on the ground that the Mormons are destroying their game range, and cutting down and destroying their timber. It is not to be expected that from 3,000 to 5,000

people, with a large quantity of stock, could do otherwise. Timber here is an object, the greater portion of the country being destitute of timber. If these people were on the north side of the river, in what was called the Pottowatomie purchase, there could be no serious objections.

Although these two tribes have been living contiguous to, and had intercourse with the whites, they unfortunately appear only to have learned their vices. The Omahas, as I have been informed by their interpreter, have given, in the last twelve months, some 30 horses for whiskey, not getting more for a poney than from two to four gallons, and that well watered. This trade has been carried on by the Pottowatomie half-breeds, on the opposite side of the river. The river was frozen over for the most part of last winter, which gave them great facilities in crossing for the article. It appears almost impossible to prevent them from getting it. I am sorry to state that there are men who live on or near the State line of Missouri, who keep whiskey, as I am told, to sell to these half-breeds and Indians. These unfortunate creatures, when spoken to about the impropriety of drinking, frequently reply, the white man makes it and sells it to us. Nothing short of divine or supernatural power will reform or cure their thirst for whiskey. I am in great hopes that the late amendment to the law in regard to making an Indian a competent witness, will have a salutary influence in the Indian country; and could it reach those base men who keep it along the line, for the purpose of selling to the Indians, it would, in a great degree, effect the desired object.

Their blacksmith has rendered them similar service to that of the Ottoe smith.

Pawnees.—They have had a school for the last two years. It has been under the care of Lester W. Platt until May last, when Mr. Platt was removed, and Samuel Allis succeeded him. Mr. Allis has been with the Pawnees some twelve years—has travelled with them in company with the Rev. Mr. Dunbar, who was laboring under the American Board of Foreign Missions. Mr. Allis is very much esteemed by the Pawnees. The Rev. T. Ranney has been associated with Mr. Dunbar. They appeared to be encouraged with the prospect of doing good; but, in the month of June, 1846, a war party of Sioux came to the Pawnee village in such numbers, manifesting so much hostility, and shooting at some of the whites, that they considered it prudent to leave the village. They saved the Pawnee children that were attending school by putting them in the cellar. The Indian tribe was out on the hunt. Immediately after the Sioux left, the farmers, missionary, and school teacher, with the children, came to Bellevue, at which place the school is still continued. From that time they have been without a farm, and have been dependent on the teacher for both food and clothing. The missionaries have not yet returned, but are willing so soon as they can get a sufficient protection. There have been from fifteen to eighteen persons there this summer and part of the spring. Owing to the backwardness of the season, the cattle could not subsist on the range before the first of May. These men were em

ployed under the direction of Alexander McElroy. They have put in a considerable quantity of corn at their former farm; but, owing to the very dry season, the product will be small. On the 15th of August, four of the hands were discharged; some time previous, three others left. Judge McElroy informed me, in a letter dated the 12th of August, that it would be impossible to complete the work in the four months for which he hired hands; but he could get the heaviest done, &c. &c. On the 28th of August, Mr. McElroy, with all the hands that he had hired, came to Bellevue, at which time and place they were discharged. He states to me that only one-half of the ground is picketted in, and but one block-house finished, sufficient only for defence; one other block-house and blacksmith shop raised, but not covered in.

On the 31st of August, the hands left at Pawnee—interpreter, blacksmith, and striker—also came to Bellevue, and reported that, on the same day that Judge McElroy and hands left, there were Indian signs seen; and, on the next day, nine Ponca Indians came, and made sign that they were Omahas, and, by that means, were permitted to approach. They then told them they were Poncas. It will be recollected that they speak the same language of the Omahas, and were once, no doubt, a part of the same tribe. They are still friendly. They told the interpreter that they and another band had run to see which would get first to the Pawnee village, to get Pawnee scalps, and that they must kill these people, pointing to three Pawnee squaws and a boy that were with the whites. The interpreter, who is an old Indian trader, and well up to managing Indians, led them into his house, and gave them a feast, thereby enabling two of the squaws and boy to run off. They purchased the third squaw by giving blankets, tobacco, calico, and nearly all of their clothing. They then told him that it was not good for him and the other white men to be there; that, if the other band came, they would have scalps; and that, some three or four days off, there were 800 lodges of Sioux, and, if they come and did not find Pawnees, they would kill white men, &c. It is possible this was for the purpose of getting the whites to leave, that they might plunder. The interpreter thinks there was certain danger, and he has lived twenty-five or thirty years amongst the Indians. On the evening of the 1st instant, Judge McElroy returned from seeing his family. On consultation with him on the subject, it was thought all-important to complete the works—at least, so as our people can protect themselves; to do which, all things considered, it was thought advisable to get some more hands, to at least put up the picketting, and put the place in a situation so as to insure the purpose intended. We got four hands besides the superintendent, interpreter, blacksmith, and striker. I am aware that the agent has taken a responsibility that, under different circumstances, would not be justified; but the government has already, the present season, expended some $1,500 in getting the works in their present—some more than half finished—condition; and now, to abandon the place, to again be burned, (which would certainly be the case,) would be a worse than useless waste of public funds. It is supposed that the present hands

can complete it, or put it in a situation that they can defend themselves, in one or two months at farthest. Owing to the unsettled situation of the Pawnees, their smiths were unable to do as much for them as they otherwise would have done. They made a considerable number of axes, iron kettles, tin buckets, &c.

I would remark as it regards the moral condition of the Indians in this agency, that it is to be regretted that they have made but small advances in their knowledge of Christianity. Their ideas of a supreme being, or of a future state of rewards and punishments are altogether confused, and in fact it might be said to amount almost to no correct knowledge, though from what I have learned of the Pawnees, they are in the advance on that subject, and that is owing to the influence of missionaries amongst them. The Rev. Timothy Ranney remarked to me with tears, that he did not know how to give them up, and that he considered the Pawnee Indians affording one of the most encouraging prospects for doing good, that he then knew of, provided the missionary labors could be continued. I would remark that the only difficulty was the want of the necessary protection from their enemy, the Sioux and Ponca Indians.

I cannot conclude this report, already longer than was anticipated, without urging on your consideration the propriety or impropriety, of the practice carried on here by licensed traders. In making these remarks, the agent wishes to be understood distinctly as making no invidious distinctions between the American Fur Company or any other company. The law is thus: "And no trade with the said tribes shall be carried on within their country, except at suitable and convenient places, to be designated from time to time, by the superintendent, agent, or sub-agent, and to be inserted in their licenses."

Mr. P. A. Sarpy has a regular trading house in this agency, but so soon as the Indians are out long enough to have any skins, robes, or peltries, you will see the clerks, strikers, and sometimes half-breeds, hurrying off in pursuit of the Indian's hunting ground or camp, with pack mules and horses. I think I would hazard nothing in saying that a great portion of the trade is carried on in that way, and miles, yes, many miles, from their store-houses. This may be all right, at least it has been practised, as I am informed, previous to my arrival here, but to my mind it is wrong. In the first place, the principal has to keep on hand a number of extra hands at various prices, ranging from one to six hundred dollars per annum. Those with numbers of horses, mules, and oxen, are kept for the purpose of packing or hauling, as circumstances require. All this cost and expense the trader lays on his goods and the Indians have it to pay. The greater part of all this cost would be saved by the trade being carried on at their store-house or houses. This is not the only evil attending the above practice; there is an additional temptation to those maurauding parties to attack and plunder the camps where the trader has his goods; it was in an Indian camp that one of P. A. Sarpy's hands had his goods last winter, when the Sioux came on them and killed the most of them,

and it was by the use of his heels that the trader saved his scalp, leaving all his goods to the enemy. If the practice is wrong, could it not be all measurably remedied by making it a forfeiture of license to carry his goods from his store-house or houses, for the purpose of traffic in the Indian country?

The nearest post office to this place is at Austin, Atchison county, Missouri; it is forty-five miles from this point, Bellevue.

In conclusion, as it regards the condition and prospects of education in this agency, I would respectfully refer you to the reports of Samuel Allis, and the Rev. E. McKinney, marked A and B. All of which I would respectfully submit for your consideration.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JOHN MILLER,
Indian Agent.

THOS. H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 12.

TURKEY RIVER SUB-AGENCY,
October 6, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to submit my annual report of the condition of the Winnebago Indians.

The result of efforts to advance the general interests and improvement of the Indians under my charge has not been so flattering the past year as I had anticipated. The barbarous attack of the Sioux upon the Winnebagoes last spring interrupted the operations of the bands who occupied farms on the Red Cedar river, and were among the most industrious and prosperous in the tribe; still something has been effected in the way of improvement. The Winnebagoes have cultivated their lands better and raised better crops this season than usual. An agricultural association was organized in the tribe last spring, and suitable premiums promised for the best crops. After harvest, a committee was appointed to examine the farms and award the premiums, which consisted of wagons, harnesses, ploughs, and other farming implements. The Indian crop this year is estimated at 11,000 bushels of grain.

There has been an average number of six laborers employed on the farms since the 1st of April, who, in additiou to the assistance rendered the Indians in ploughing and fencing their fields, have cultivated one hundred and fifty acres of land, and made one hundred and forty-three tons of hay. The crop raised on the agency farm this season is good.

The Rev. David Lowrie reports the school under his charge as being in a more prosperous condition than at any former period. The children are instructed in the elementary branches usually taught in common schools.

Further details of the school, and also of the farms, will be communicated in the statistical returns required by existing regulations.

The blacksmith and assistants employed for the Winnebagoes have discharged their duty faithfully. The two shops near the sub-agency have reported work done the past nine months amounting, at the usual prices charged for work, to some $1,279 28. The work done in the shop located on the Red Cedar river is not reported.

The tribe were assembled last week to receive their annuities, which were paid as usual to the heads of families. The amount in money paid to each individual of the tribe this year was $18 50. After receiving their money, the Indians paid their debts promptly. The debts paid were principally individual liabilities to the traders for goods and provisions obtained on credit since the payment last fall. The giving of credit to the Indian is the principal means by which the trader obtains his influence over him; the Indian considering it a great favor to obtain credit of his trader. The policy of granting facilities for obtaining an influence, often used for mercenary ends, to the injury of the Indians, and sometimes to the prejudice of the government, is, at least, doubtful. If the trader is allowed to credit the Indians, that credit should be obtained through the government agent. This would not only secure to the government the influence now secured by the trader himself, but would afford protection to the Indian against extortion. It would be an additional security to the Indian if the trader were allowed to receive only a given profit on his goods.

License to trade with the Indians has been, heretofore, too easily obtained. It would be but a just application of the laws of trade if, on obtaining a license, the trader were required to pay a sum not less than $100 per annum as an equivalent for ground rent, and for timber used for building, fencing, and fire-wood. The money thus obtained to be applied to the hospital or school fund for the benefit of the Indians.

Strict scrutiny should be observed in regard to the character of persons permitted to reside among or trade with the Indians. The red man forms his opinion of civilized society, and of the morals and religion of the white man, from the character of the few whose conduct he has an opportunity to observe. It would be a salutary regulation to prohibit persons from entering into the Indian country except on business for the government, or by the written permission of an officer duly authorized to give such permission.

The annuity goods and provisions furnished the Winnebagoes the present year, are generally of a good quality, and well adapted to their wishes and wants. The tribe are well supplied with clothing, provisions, and money for the coming winter.

The health of the tribe is unusually good for this season of the year. Their physician reports that billious and congestive fevers, and fever and ague, have been the principal diseases prevalent among them the present season, and that the Indians have suffered far less from sickness this year than they suffered last year.

There has been less drunkenness among the Winnebagoes this year than formerly. I attribute this reformation, however, rather to the late act of Congress, enforced by the dragoons under Captain Morgan's command, than to any voluntary abstinence on the part of the Indians. If the States and Territories adjoining the Indian country would enact laws prohibiting the sale of liquor to the Indians, similar to the act of Congress approved the 3d of March last, the introduction of intoxicating liquor into the Indian country would be entirely suppressed.

A temperance pledge was signed by eighty-two Indians of the tribe in July last; and the chiefs have pledged themselves to "use all their influence, and to make all proper exertions to prevent the introduction and sale of whiskey and other intoxicating liquors into their country."

The present location of the Winnebagoes, and the circumstances by which they are surrounded, are peculiarly unfavorable. The facility with which they obtain intoxicating drinks precludes all hope of their moral improvement; and the knowledge that their present residence is only temporary, prevents them from investing capital in permanent improvements. It is very desirable that the benevolent and liberal intentions of the government towards this people, should, with as little delay as practicable, be carried into effect, by removing them to a permanent home, where the usual motives which stimulate industry can be brought to bear upon them.

Another obstacle to the prosperity of the Winnebagoes is the weakness of their government. The chiefs of the tribe dare not make, or attempt to enforce, laws for the punishment of crimes. The government of the United States cannot better consult the interests of this people than by enacting and enforcing a wholesome code of laws for the punishment of crimes among them, and for the protection of their persons and their property.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. FLETCHER,
Indian Sub-Agent.

Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 13.

OSAGE RIVER SUB-AGENCY, 1*st September*, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to lay before you the annual report of the condition of the Indians of this sub-agency. Since my last year's communication, of the 4th September, 1846, the number of Indians attached to this district has been increased, by the accession of the party of the Miamies of Indiana. They reached the lands assigned them in the early part of November last. Very soon after their arrival, they caused to be built twenty-five good and substan-

tial log-houses, and which they paid for out of their annuity last spring.

I contracted, upon their own authority and wishes, the breaking up, fencing, and planting of 227 acres of prairie, in detached pieces, in such quantities and on such spots which they themselves designated—the cost of the work to be retained out of the annuity due them for this year. At the last annual payment made to them in March last, you induced them to consent to lay aside the sum of $1,500 out of the annuity of 1847, to be appropriated towards the erection and maintenance of a school on the manual labor plan, and which they (the Miamies) desired should be under the directions of the fathers of the Roman Catholic church; but from recent communications received, and a late opposition of the Miamies themselves, no preparations are making towards the attainment of this laudable object. The moral condition of the Miamies is truly deplorable. They possess the finest portion of land within the limits of the sub-agency; their annuities are enormous, compared with the number of recipients; they are entitled to innumerable advantages in the shape of blacksmiths, millers, and agricultural assistance; salt, tobacco, &c., secured to them by treaties; still they are a miserable race of beings, considering nothing but what contributes to the pernicious indulgence of their depraved appetites for whiskey.

You are aware, sir, that only a portion of the Miamies emigrated last fall; the remainder, those who remained back in Indiana, are now on their way hither and may shortly be expected. When they shall again be concentrated, the question may well be asked, will the Indiana influence prevail among them as heretofore? That such influence has existed; that it has been detrimental to the Indians and vexatious to the government, no one acquainted with them will deny.

Let this influence be destroyed; let the State of Missouri adopt rigid laws to suppress the whiskey doggeries along the line, and there may be still hope for the Miamies, if not for the present, at least for the rising and coming generations.

The Pottowatomies have been more unsettled and more unsteady in their habits this year than formerly. This must, in some measure, be attributed to their contemplated removal to the Kanzas country. Some have planted and will raise a limited quantity of corn and esculent fruits; others again have not applied themselves to farming at all this year. Those who have planted, speaking generally, will not raise a sufficiency to carry them through this coming winter, provided they remain; but they have pledged themselves, in council assembled, that they will remove this fall in the event of the payment being early enough for them to get off. I said the Pottowatomies have been more than usually unsteady; drunkenness, and its dire companion, murder, have prevailed to a greater extent this year than for years previous; even the hitherto exemplary Indians on Sugar creek have not escaped the infection. I am, however, happy to state that a reaction is taking place. Some of the old and steady denizens of Sugar creek have taken the matter

in hand. They have called councils, invited the attendance of their brethren on Pottowatomie creek, and mutually have pledged themselves to adopt rules, fines, and penalties for the introduction of spirituous liquors within their limits. It is pleasing to see the energies with which the movers of this truly desirable object press onward to suppress the use and abuse of ardent spirits amongst their people. The law of Congress of March the 3d last, and the regulations of April 13th last, cannot effect the squatters along the line of Missouri, from whom the Indians procure whiskey. If the legislature of Missouri would enact stringent laws, visit with imprisonment any violation of the same, and allow Indian testimony in such cases, we would then enjoy happy times. The well disposed and respectable citizens of the adjoining counties would hail the enactment of such laws with joy. Pursuant to instructions received last spring, Major J. Beach, agent of the Sacs and Foxes, and myself, were appointed commissioners to locate and survey 13 square miles for the Chippewas of Swan creek and Black river. The survey was completed last March, and a plat and the field-notes of the same forwarded to your office.

The Chippewas, Ottowas, Peorias, Weas, and Piankeshaws, have, as usually, planted with the expectation of good crops, though I am afraid the recent dry weather will be the means of curtailing the produce which, from the favorable signs in the earlier part of the season, they had a right to anticipate.

The Peorias have, as usual, been very industrious and exemplary. With no annuity or pecuniary aid from government, it is surprising, to those acquainted with the listless habits of Indians, to observe how well these people have managed. I read with pleasure your remarks respecting this remnant of excellent people embodied in your last year's report. They are still anxious to sell their country and incorporate themselves with the Weas and Piankeshaws. I should be most happy to see something done for these people.

The claimants of Pottowatomie reservations granted under treaties made east of the Mississippi, lying in Indiana and Michigan, are occasionally making inquiries respecting them. I can only give assurance that the subject has been brought to the notice of the Department by yourself in your last annual report, and that it will in good time receive the attention of the government.

The general health of the country and the Indians subject to my charge has been good this year. Few deaths have occurred by the visitation of God, but I am sorry to add, that there have been 12 deaths by violence; 9 Pottowatomies and 3 Miamies have fallen by the knife, and some 4 or 5 have died from the effects of intemperance.

I enclose, herewith, the various school reports of the teachers attached to the different missionary establishments of this subagency, to which I beg to refer you.

The Roman Catholic Church at Sugar creek numbers some 1,300 communicants, and much praise is due to the zealous fathers of this pursuasion for the good they have wrought among these people; two schools are in operation. The female school, under the

direction of the ladies of the Sacred Heart, deserves particular commendation.

The school at Wea, in charge of the Rev. Mr. Adams and Miss S. Osgood, the teachers, sustained by the Baptist denomination, appear to afford all the happy results that could be expected of an institution of the kind. The young lady in charge of the department of letters is eminently qualified for the task, and seems entirely devoted to her work. Under the tuition of such a mind as hers, imbued by the most Christian benevolence, the pupils cannot fail to make rapid improvement, and from the influence of pupils so trained, on the future state of their kindred, we cannot but anticipate the most happy consequences.

The school hitherto taught by Miss E. McCoy, on Pottowatomie creek, as a day school, under the patronage of the same society, in view of the early removal of the Pottowatomies, has been changed to a boarding school of five scholars, under the tuition of Miss E. McCoy, a young lady in every respect possessing the best qualifications of a teacheress. These little girls have made pleasing and rapid progress in letters and the various duties of domestic arts.

The Baptist mission station, among the Ottowas, in charge of Rev. Mr. Mecker, still continues to afford the most unequivocal evidence of the practicability of reclaiming from a rude state to one of industry, morality, and decorum, the American Indian. Mr. Meeker has exerted over the Ottowas the most happy influence, the fruits of which is perceived in the rapid improvement of this people. Perhaps no effort of the kind has ever proved more successful.

I have to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED J. VAUGHAN,
Indian Sub-agent.

Hon. Thos. H. Harvey,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 14.

Council Bluffs Sub-agency,
September 30, 1847.

Sir: The time having arrived at which it is made my duty to lay before you an annual report of the condition of the Indians of this sub-agency, I have the honor of submitting the following:

There has been no material change in the condition or habits of the Chippewa, Ottowa, and Pottowatomie Indians of this sub-agency for the past year, except in the use of intoxicating liquor—which was used to excess up to the receipt of your circular, containing the law as amended on the 3d March, 1847, and which has had a happy effect. The quantity of liquor used since that time has been comparatively small, and with slight amendments, the evil may be almost entirely remedied—that evil which has so long proved so destructive to this unfortunate race—as follows, viz: requiring all

white persons who are permitted to reside in the Indian country, to take an oath to co-operate with the government officers in keeping and observing the laws and regulations of the United States, pertaining to the Indian territory, while they remain in the Indian country, and that they will not introduce any intoxicating liquor of any kind into the Indian country, or be in any way privy thereto; for it is in vain to hope for a speedy advance to the civilization of the Indians without an entire stop is put to the use of intoxicating liquors, as they have no discretion in the use of this article. Its use enervates the mind and body, produces sickness and death, and is the principal cause of the carnage and bloodshed so frequent among the several tribes. Now, I would suggest, that if the several States adjoining the Indian territory would enact laws, admitting Indian testimony consistent with the law as amended 3d March, 1847, it will greatly aid in putting an end to this pernicious article, that has so long proved destructive to the red man of the forest; and I would respectfully suggest, whether, if the several tribes before referred to, were requested by the heads of this Department, they would not lend their aid in so great an enterprise. I believe they would. I would further represent that the agricultural pursuits have been less the past year, owing to their intentions to emigrate to their new homes this fall, which I fear will be defeated—their neglecting to make hay in the proper season; and I would further represent, that this nation has no school or religious denomination with them, each of which I consider necessary. Schools, in my opinion, should be conducted on the manual labor system. Each day should be divided equally, one half in tuition, and the other half at labor, giving frequent lectures, showing them the advantages they receive over those who have not been at school and receiving an education. By taking them young and continuing a steady mild course up to manhood, will be a sure guarantee to civilization. To send Indian children out of their country to school without learning them to labor, is spending money in vain. They return to their old playmates too proud to work, and will resort to anything for a livelihood without work, and their education only qualifies them to do more mischief; therefore, all the children, of or near the same age, should be sent to school at the same time, and continue in school to a maturer age; and by the frequent lectures and the aid of those who have the control of them, training them up in the habits of a friendly character and intercourse with each other, in a few years we will be able to prevent both envy and bloodshed, which are of too frequent occurrence. This plan, if carried into execution, cannot fail; that is, if we have all the Indian children of the same age receiving an education at the same time. They receive the same kind of instruction, and are by nature the same people; but by being raised by different tribes, as a matter of course, they partake of the same feelings and dispositions of those with whom raised; and if all were educated at the same time, under the same kind of instruction, they would be strongly influenced by that education, and especially if continued in school until mature age. Perhaps some may look upon my plan of civilization

as an expensive one; but what can we do, and especially of this importance, without expense. If we fit out a regiment of troops for six months, there is expense—much more in keeping up a standing army; and let me ask, is the money necessary to commence and keep up manual labor schools among all the Indian tribes, to be compared with the loss of life so frequent in the forest and on the prairie every year, and which will continue until the Indians are in some way civilized as a Christian nation? Is this not their duty?

This nation has two blacksmiths, who have been constantly employed during the winter and spring in repairing guns, traps, and other implements, suitable to their hunting excursions, and in the fall and summer in repairing wagons, making log-chains, and other articles for emigrating to their new homes. Their miller has been constantly engaged in grinding and sawing, and has contributed largely to their wants in breadstuffs. This nation is slowly advancing towards civilization, and justice compels me to say, there are some men among this nation of a fair order of intelligence, their minds well cultivated, and who would do no discredit to an enlightened community. A large number of them are disposed to use some industry, so far as to make a moderate support; but few think of making any thing to sell. Their anticipated move this fall has prevented many of them from raising crops at this place. I hope that they will be able get to their new homes this fall; but if they should fail, it will probably prevent a crop to be raised by them another year; if so, it will require strict economy, or they must suffer, as there is but little game in the country to which they go.

There is one thing more that I would represent: that is, that some of the Indians have been down and examined their new homes, and have brought an unfavorable report—that is, that the country is not good; but I have met it promptly, and have told them that it was not the intention of the government to make their condition worse; that when they went down and examined the whole country, I thought they would be better satisfied. But some have gone back to Milwaukie, as I am informed; yet I believe they were induced to go back by their relatives and friends.

All of which I most respectfully submit.

Very respectfully,

R. B. MITCHELL,
Indian Sub-agent.

To THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 15.

WYANDOTT INDIAN SUB-AGENCY,
October 20, 1847.

SIR: Agreeably to the requirements of the regulations of the Indian Department, the following report is most respectfully submitted:

Since my last annual report but few striking or important changes have taken place amongst the Indians under my especial charge. The great body of the nation is advancing with a steady and even tread in the path towards civilization. The more advanced see, nay, feel the great importance of not only becoming civilized, but enlightened. Few, if any, of the North American tribes have advanced farther towards the much desired goal than have the Wyandotts; they can boast many men of acquirements and letters. The arts and sciences find their votaries among this people. The spirit of improvement is abroad amongst them. Many have, during the past season, erected comfortable houses, extended their fields, and purchased horses and oxen to carry on their farming operations. The fertility of the soil of the tract of country on which the Wyandotts are settled, and the skill with which many of them cultivate it, were referred to in my last annual report. The circumstances then warranted me in so favorably noticing these facts, but the evidences which have transpired during the past season make what was then said still more palpable; for I venture the assertion that better crops of corn cannot be found in any other section of the country. Some of them have also made experiments the past season in wheat growing, and their efforts, it is gratifying to inform you, have resulted in the most complete success. Every other species of agricultural products usually cultivated in the same climate are produced in abundance, and to the greatest perfection on the lands of the Wyandotts.

A commendable zeal for the education of the youth is felt by many of these people. Notwithstanding the fund of five hundred dollars annually appropriated by the government for that purpose is ample, several families have sent their daughters and sons to select schools abroad, some few of whom have recently returned with educations and accomplishments rarely met with amongst their more highly favored white neighbors. Amongst these are the daughters of W. W.; one of whom has since accompanied me to St. Louis and purchased a piano, and I understand is quite proficient in the use of it. Strange sounds these in an Indian country! Yet the philanthropist, it is hoped, may safely look forward to no very distant day when not only the Wyandott, but many other aboriginal tribes of our country, shall have fully emerged from the savage state into the full blaze of civilization.

There are two schools in the nation for the education of the youth of the same; they are kept in operation the most of the time, and in which boys and girls are taught promiscuously. I am not able to give the number of scholars taught, from the fact that the teachers have not kept the necessary records. I am aware, however, that the number is comparatively small. In not being able to procure a regular attendance of children consists the great difficulty of educating them well at home. Parents and guardians are too neglectful of the important duty of enforcing such attendance; very many of them having little or no education themselves, cannot see the value of it in others. The amount appropriated by government

annually ($500) for educational purposes is amply sufficient to give every youth in the nation a good education.

The church established in this nation by the Methodist Episcopal Society is under the care of Rev. James Peery, and from the best information I am able to obtain, is in about the same flourishing condition as when I last had the pleasure of noticing it. There is now a brick church building, in progress of erection, of commodious dimensions, and will be completed in about one month and a half, the fund for which was mostly raised by private subscription among the people. The church now numbers two hundred and forty members, two native preachers, and four exhorters.

However pleasant the evidences of the onward and upward advancement of this nation towards the much desired desideratum of complete civilization, and the almost entire rectitude and moral deportment of the greater portion of the nation, I am again compelled to call your attention, and that of the Department, to the painful fact, that intemperance still stalks abroad among them. From this destroying and demoralizing scourge, I fear they never can be delivered, so long as the degraded *white* man is able to avail himself of the facilities of sowing broadcast the never-failing cause of dissension and brutalization in the form of ardent spirits. It is idle, worse than idle, to attempt to reclaim the wretched *Indian* victim of the use of *whiskey*, if it is possible for him to procure it. A perfect slave to his appetite, he knows no moral suasion. The only means of his deliverance must be sought in fettering the cupidity of those who are so unprincipled as to furnish, for paltry gain, the means of his destruction.

Although Congress, at their last session, have done, seemingly, all within their power to do, and for which every agent must feel grateful, yet there is much to be done before this otherwise prosperous and happy people can be saved from inevitable destruction.

Notwithstanding the privileges granted the prosecutor by the late enactment—such as the use of Indian testimony, punishment by fine and imprisonment, &c.—the remoteness of the courts in which we may prosecute, and the expense attendant upon such prosecution, renders the law all but inoperative; add to this the fact that we have those privileges above mentioned only against offences committed within the Indian territory, and you will readily see that enough has not yet been done.

Could we have a similar enactment by the legislature of the State of Missouri to that of the United States, we should then have laws sufficiently stringent to punish the guilty, and in all human probability we should be able to put the enemy to flight, and thus leave the field clear for the full exercise of the philanthropist in teaching the *red man* the real value of sobriety, industry, and the inestimable advantages of Christianity.

Notwithstanding this nation has not been scourged the past season by any prevailing epidemic, (this section of country having been generally unusually healthy,) still they have to mourn the loss of some of their best men. The diseases by which they were cut down were those incident to all new western countries, mostly

brought on or aggravated by improper exposure, and in many instances without the aid of proper medical skill. A reckless disregard of exposure and hardship is almost proverbial of Indian character. Persons unacquainted with their peculiar habits when in health, their total disregard of everything which would be calculated to obviate or lessen disease, or contribute to their comfort, cannot appreciate the real causes of the rapid decline of this once powerful, almost innumerable people.

The late regulations in the Department in making semi-annual payments of annuities, and in causing payments to be made to heads of families and individuals, has created some considerable excitement among the Indians—principally, I think, brought about by interested white men. My own impressions are decidedly in favor of both of these arrangements; and, further, I am strongly of the opinion that, when the Indians have time to see the benefits arising from the above mentioned alterations, which must inevitably accrue to them, they will be found willing to acknowledge that those changes have been made with a single eye to their interest. Much of the trouble and vexation that is met with in the Indian country is justly chargeable to that class of white men who infest the frontier—men with small means, and who, in the hope of increasing it, become the constant advisers and pretended friends of the Indian, and by these means hope, and often succeed, in defrauding them, and creating difficulties between them and those whose intentions and actions are perfectly honorable.

The Wyandotts have lately re-organized a temperance society. At the first meeting, forty names were obtained to the cold water pledge. Something may be looked for from this movement in restraining the appetite for strong drink for a time at least.

A few words upon the subject of civilization and of Christianizing the Indians. Experience proves that whatever has been done, has been done by the persevering efforts of men whose *whole* aim has been directed to this object, and whose lives were a practical example of the precepts they taught.

No where can correct moral deportment and true sincerity of heart, kind feeling, and pure motives, be found in greater perfection than in an *Indian religious family*. The great bar to their improvement is overcome when they throw aside old superstitions and long standing customs peculiar to themselves. The tenacious adherence of the Indian to the ancient dress and customs of his people is a great bar to civilization; but when he has been induced to throw them aside, and adopt the habits and pursuits of civilization, he rapidly embraces the peaceful pursuits, and accedes to the requirements of Christian life; and if then he is led and advised, and cheered, and countenanced by the hand of Christian fellowship, benevolence and charity, his improvement and happiness are in a great measure secured.

The manual labor system, in my opinion, has the preference, and may yet do much for their advancement in habits of industry and religious instruction; but, in my humble opinion, it should be totally unconnected with any species of trading, speculation, or

money-getting on the part of those who are their recognised religious teachers. I cannot promise much for their spiritual welfare (or worldly) when the absorbing question with the recognised minister of peace is not "how much good have we done these people the past year," but rather, "how much money have we made," and how much can we make during the next. Much cannot be beneficially done to advance the Indian character, while a spirit of gain is manifested by those to whom they look for spiritual aid.

The Indian must feel that the white man in his heart is his friend, and, not doubting this, you may do almost what you please with them; hence the necessity of great sincerity of purpose on the part of those in any way connected with them.

There are men among the various tribes who have devoted their whole time and talent to improving and Christianizing and elevating the Indian character. Their efforts are often crowned with success, and the evident results are to them a rich reward, and they deserve well of their conntry; but they do not grasp with avaricious hands —they pray and counsel—they distribute with charity.

I am, dear sir, yours, most respectfully,

RICHARD HEWITT,
Indian Sub-agent Wyandotts.

Hon. T. H. Harvey,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 16.

Great Nemaha Sub-Agency,
October 1, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor, herewith, of enclosing the annual reports of the Rev. Messrs. Hamilton and Irwin, of the Iowa and Sac mission, of Mr. John W. Forman, farmer for the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, and Mr. Frederick Lyda, farmer for the Iowas, together with a few hasty suggestions of my own.

It will be observed from a perusal of the mission report, that the manual labor boarding school, though not very extensively patronized by the Indians, is diffusing some benefit to such as avail themselves of its advantages, and still holds out ample inducements to others. But for the corrupt influence of the whiskey traders, who live so near, I am satisfied that the school would soon have as many scholars as the building is calculated to accommodate. During the winter months they have a fine school, but when the spring returns it is difficult to prevent many of the children from returning to their old dress and habits, the blanket and the bow and arrow. Of one thing, however, I am satisfied: if the means now in operation do not finally reclaim these wayward and unfortunate people, I consider their case a truly hopeless one. I am fully convinced that the "manual labor boarding school" system is the only practicable means of their civilization and Christianization, and I am equally certain that those in charge of the institution among the Iowas use the most efficient means within their power to render them its full

benefit. As to their ultimate success, I do not feel entirely prepared to speak, but I hope for the best.

The Sacs still refuse to permit their children to go to the school; and from the feeling of enmity and continued ill-will existing between the two tribes, I have but little hopes that they will ever permit them to mingle with the Iowas. Their jealousies and complaints of each other are continual, and I have small hopes of its being otherwise while they live so near together.

It will be observed from the reports of the farmers, that both tribes have made fine crops, and that their conditions in regard to the actual necessities of savage life are prosperous. As to their advancement in the agricultural line but little can be said. Their improvements in this, as well as in every other branch of civilization, is slow, notwithstanding I am satisfied that the utmost exertions are used to improve them. I think the system of farming for them, at first adopted and since pursued, of raising large quantities of grain for them, a bad one, and I shall hereafter either abolish it entirely or greatly modify it. I conceive the real duty of a farmer to be, instructing them and working *with* them, not *for* them.

I have entered into a contract to have a mill erected for the Sacs and Foxes, which they have been a long time asking for. I hope it will be in operation by the 1st of January, as stipulated in the contract.

It will be observed by the report of Mr. Forman, Sac farmer, that the Sacs desire an exchange of their lands for part of the Kickapoos', lying north of Wolf river. If this can be conveniently done, (and I see no reason why it cannot, if both tribes are willing, as stated,) I believe it would be a good arrangement for the Sacs and Foxes, as they are much further from the whiskey traders where they now are than at their old village near the mouth of Wolf river. Both they and the Kickapoos have, I presume, much more land than either tribe really need or will ever improve.

The adoption of the system of paying to the heads of families, as a permanent measure, will, I think, have a most beneficial influence upon them. They must be taught the benefits arising from the rights in private property, before they will make much exertion towards improvement.

The Sacs and Foxes received their annuities on the 22d of September, and divided $17 per capita, paying besides a debt of near $1,500 to their trader.

In accordance with instructions, the Iowa funds have been withheld until an arrangement can be effected with the Omahas for their (the Iowas) attack upon them last winter. I think this an excellent example to set them, and am satisfied that the withholding their money a single day, after it is on the ground and ready for them, would do more towards restraining these "war-parties" than all the advice that could be given them.

Your obedient servant,

W. E. RUCKER,

Indian Sub-agent.

To Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 17.

CHOCTAW AGENCY, *October* 20, 1847.

SIR: During the last year, eight parties of Choctaw emigrants, amounting in all to 1,619, have been removed from Mississippi. Of these, 360 were of the Shuk-hu-nat-chee band, formerly settled on a stream of that name, flowing into the Tombigbee; 425 were "Mogolushas," chiefly from Neshoba county, Mississippi; 650 were "Sixtowns," from the southern sections of Mississippi and Louisiana; and the rest were from the country watered by the Big Black and Pearl rivers. About half the entire number have settled on the Arkansas, and the remainder on the waters of Red river. The different parties vary considerably in their habits and character. Some are sober, industrious, thrifty, and anxious to improve their condition. Others, again, are indolent, improvident, and intemperate. To the first class, the Shuk-hu-nat-chee, with but few exceptions, belong. They are, in general, decently and comfortably clothed; about one-third of them are members of religious societies, and nearly all have provided themselves with cabins and fields, making this year, notwithstanding the usual acclimatory sickness, respectable crops of corn.

The Mogolushas differ widely from the Shuk-hu-nat-chees. They have always been regarded as improvident, turbulent, and reckless. Many of them had, on their arrival, large sums of money, derived from the sale of land scrip. These spent most of their time in drinking and fighting, to the infinite annoyance of the more peaceable and well disposed of their neighbors. Their means, however, soon gave out, and, I understand, about half of them have shown a disposition to labor.

The "Sixtowns" are said to be, with the exception of one or two small bands, the most ignorant of the Choctaw race. They have, hitherto, been more strongly attached to the customs of their ancestors, and more obstinately opposed to innovation, than any other portion of the tribe. They are not so quarrelsome as the Mogolushas, and not so industrious as the Shuk-hu-nat-chees. Prior to their emigration, they led wandering lives, ranging over a considerable scope of country, and seldom remaining long in one place. It was, therefore, supposed that the greater part would return to their former haunts. It is said, however, that not a single family has gone back. On the contrary, they bid fair to make very good settlers. A portion of those included under the head of "Sixtowns," are better known as Bay Indians. These came up the Washita in April last, and settled in the southeastern corner of the Choctaw country. They have intermarried with the French, and adopted, in a great degree, their manners and peculiarities. I have not seen them, but understand that in dress and appearance they resemble the lower classes of the creole population of Louisiana. Considering their mode of life and peculiar condition, it is rather remarkable that, apart from the Bay Indians, who are a distinct body, in many respects different from the others, there are no half-breeds among the Sixtown emigrants.

The Bay Indians and other Sixtowns, who came about the same time, arrived too late to plant corn this year. Those who came in January last, and in the spring of 1846, are said to be doing tolerably well.

The other emigrants that removed during the last year generally resemble the Mogolushas in their character and habits. They did not reach this country until long after the usual planting season.

Colonel McKean, who has had charge of the emigrants settled on Red river, as issuing commissary, reports that a very large majority of those who arrived on the 1st day of April, 1845, have built comfortable cabins, cleared fields, are doing well, and are well satisfied with their new homes. "Some of them," he adds, "have planted cotton this season, and I think, as they get more ground cleared, they will still increase the production of cotton, as the merchants are giving two cents per pound in the seed." The parties that arrived in 1846, he represents, are in like manner doing well—building houses and clearing land. Some of them have raised this year, more than enough produce for their subsistence.

In addition to the advantages arising from soil and climate, they have, in the interest on the sums invested for their benefit, an income well adapted to their wants, amounting, on an average, to about $5 each; enough to be of material assistance in various respects, but not enough to obviate the necessity of labor; though whether annuities are ever of any real permanent advantage to Indians, is matter of doubt. There can be no question that large sums of money, in their hands are a source of positive injury. Some evidence of this is found in the fact that those of the emigrants who sold their land scrip for money are poorer, and worse off in every respect, than those who received no pecuniary consideration in exchange. "They buy no ponies," said one of the Leaf river emigrants, speaking of the parties that sold, "no cattle, no ploughs; nothing but whiskey and a little calico."

Accounts from the other Choctaws, the "old settlers," represent that their crops have been unusually abundant this year, the season having been remarkably favorable. It is said that there will be a large surplus of corn, and that over one thousand bales of cotton will be shipped from the settlements bordering on the Red river. I am not able to give you the exact number of the tribe, the census returns being still incomplete; but it is the opinion of its more intelligent members that, notwithstanding the last year has been unusually sickly, the population is increasing. The settlements are extending westward rapidly, already reaching 200 miles west of the Arkansas line. Whether at present they are materially improving as a people, I am not able to judge, not having been long enough among them; though, from the statements of the very respectable and intelligent gentlemen who have resided among them the last twenty years as missionaries, it would seem that they are. The Rev. Mr. Kingsbury, after lamenting a temporary increase of intemperance in neighborhoods where parties of the late emigrants have settled, and expressing a regret that the laws have not exerted

that restraining influence over a certain class of the population that they formerly did, adds, that nevertheless "a very perceptible progress in industry and general improvement is manifest;" and the Rev. Mr. Wright speaks in strong terms of the great and continued amelioration of their condition. He also mentions the gratifying fact, that there are among them many hundreds of professing Christians, "whose consistent lives attest the sincerity of their convictions." An excellent opportunity will soon be afforded of observing how far the Choctaws are able to help themselves, which, after all, is the best test of the extent of their improvement.

The period during which blacksmiths were to be provided by the government is about to expire, and the time is also at hand when the greater part of the annuities at present distributed among them will cease to be paid. Should these circumstances stimulate them to make good by their own exertions the deficiency, it will furnish strong proof that the labors for their advancement are not thrown away.

It will be seen, by the report of their agent, that the Chickasaws have also been fortunate in their agricultural operations this year, and that they are able to furnish the troops at Fort Washita with most of the supplies required for their use. They complain—I apprehend with good reason—of the conduct of the Kickapoos and other Indians supposed to be connected with them in horse-stealing. Similar complaints have been frequently made by the Choctaws and Creeks. In fact these depredations are carried on to such an extent as to call for the most energetic measures to remedy the evil. I regret to learn that the Chickasaws desire so large a portion of their income paid them as annuity. They already receive, in this way, more than enough for their wants; and it would certainly be much better in every respect if they could be persuaded to make some more useful disposition of their means.

No reports have been received from the agents for the Creeks and Seminoles. From other sources I learn there is likely to be some disagreement in the former tribe concerning the division of their annuities, which have heretofore been paid to the chiefs, and not—as in the more usual manner—to heads of families. The disputes will probably relate to the amount to be allowed to the chiefs for their services. Another source of dissatisfaction with the Creeks generally, is the payment of part of their annuity in goods. They complain that the goods are not, and cannot be, divided fairly; that they are never so well suited to their wants as articles purchased expressly for their use by traders living amongst them, and understanding exactly their condition and necessities; and, furthermore, they allege that it generally happens that the goods do not reach them until after the season when they are most required. How far these allegations are true, I am not able to say. As to the impression generally prevailing, that such complaints emanate from the traders exclusively, and not from the Indians, I am satisfied, from my own observation among other tribes, that it is not correct. There is a strong disposition on the part of all Indians that know anything about money at all, to want whatever may be due

them paid in money, and into their own hands, if it is to stay there only a minute; still they want to see it, to feel it, to handle it. This disposition may be laughed at as absurd. It nevertheless exists; and an Indian is much better satisfied, though he gets for his money but half its value, if he can feel that it is his own, and that he has the absolute management and control of it. Apart from this feeling, my own conviction is very strong that it is much the best plan to pay all annuities intended for distribution at all in money, and then open the door to the freest competition among traders. You thereby teach Indians the value of money and goods, and give them some idea of the principles of commerce. Moreover, traders encourage them to develope their resources. They buy their hides, tallow, cotton, corn, or whatever they may have to sell, and in that way, among the Choctaws at least, do a great deal to promote agricultural industry.

The report of the agent for the Cherokees holds out strong inducements to believe that the effort made by the government in 1846, to settle the difficulties among them, will prove successful. It was hardly to be expected that animosities of so bitter and deadly a character would at once be effectually dispelled; and the fact that no outbreak has occurred during the year which has elapsed since the treaty was concluded, is of itself a strong proof of the wisdom of that measure. It is certainly to be hoped that there will be no further occasion for interference in their domestic affairs, and that the experiment of self-government may in their case have a fair trial. The opinion has indeed been more than once expressed by persons thoroughly conversant with such matters, that there can be no permanent and effective improvement in any tribe until it manages its own affairs, and forms a character for itself, by undergoing the trials and reverses which States, as well as individuals, must necessarily encounter in their transition from infancy to mature age. The signs of returning tranquility among the Cherokees are various. The cultivation of the earth, which has been neglected to a deplorable extent, is resumed. All idea of a division or change of country is abandoned, and their present location is regarded as permanent. One of the best indications, however, is the appropriation of $35,000 for the erection of two seminaries in the neighborhood of Tahlequah—one for males, and one for females. Of the precise manner in which the money is to be expended, I am not informed. But it appears to me much better that they should control the expenditure themselves, even if their means are not applied to the best advantage, inasmuch as a degree of experience may be acquired by the management of such matters almost as valuable as the education proposed to be secured for their children.

I cannot give you any information concerning the Osage and Neosho sub-agencies, not having received any reports from Messrs. Bunch and Raines.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD,
Acting Superintendent, Western Territory.

Hon. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 18.

CHEROKEE AGENCY,
Cherokee Nation, September 29, 1847.

SIR: In conformity with the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor to submit the following report, in regard to the present condition and general appearance of matters and things connected with the Cherokee tribe of Indians, west of the Mississippi river.

In reference to the administration of the civil government of the nation, embracing the legislative, judicial, and executive branches, no material alteration has taken place since my last report, in which I represented the principles upon which it was founded, and the mode of its administration; it would, therefore, be unnecessary to repeat what has heretofore been said on the subject of their national affairs.

A short time before my last annual report, a compromise had been entered into between the different parties in the Cherokee Nation, by their respective delegates, then at the city of Washington, which opened the way to a friendly intercourse between the parties, and the bitter animosities which had long interrupted the tranquility of the nation and the prosperity of the people, were agreed to be mutually forgiven; by which compromise, the delegations representing the different parties, were authorized to enter conjointly, as the representatives of the whole Cherokee people, into a treaty with commissioners on the part of the United States; which commission and joint delegation made and agreed on a treaty, settling all matters of difference between the different parties of the Cherokees and the government of the United States, upon the principles and in the way pointed out and set forth in said treaty. The consequences to grow out of this treaty were looked to with much interest by the well-disposed and reflecting portion of all the parties; but, at the time of making my last report, sufficient time had not elapsed to develope its practical effects, and, indeed, for some time immediately succeeding its promulgation, things did not present so favorable an aspect as was desirable, or that could be considered very flattering. I am gratified, however, to be enabled to state, that at this time, and for some months back, a much more general and social intercourse, and friendly feeling among the people generally, is visible, than has been for years heretofore; and it is to be hoped, that this desirable intercourse and mutual deportment of courtesy and friendship will increase. The tranquility restored by this compromise and treaty has imparted a general stimulus to industry, which is visible in the tillage of the soil and the cultivation of crops of the present season, which look unusually promising, and will doubtless afford an abundant supply for home consumption and probably a considerable overplus. The season has been very favorable to the production of grain, and all other vegetables raised for domestic use; and the general health of the country, this season, has thus far been very good. Upon the whole, the affairs of

the nation may be considered in a much better situation than they were last year. Owing to the party and political differences which have for upwards of seven years agitated the nation, much diversity of opinion has heretofore existed between the different parties in regard to the propriety and necessity of dividing into separate and distinct governments, either by a partition of the country they now occupy, or by the government of the United States providing a new home in a distant country for a portion of them, by which they would be finally separated. The provisions of the late treaty, however, have dissipated that policy, and it now seems to be the settled opinion, that the country they now inhabit is considered their permanent home as a nation. The settlement of this question has imparted energy to the undertaking of national improvement, and given permanency to their designs. In addition to the eight public schools in the nation and the missionary establishments, the authorities of the nation have resolved on building two seminaries, near Tah-le-quah, or the council ground—one for the education of males, and the other for females. This laudable undertaking has been embarked in with commendable energy; and, since the commencement of the manual labor, has given daily employment to about seventy-five hands, including mechanics and ordinary laborers. The buildings are of brick, and will be large and commodious. The probable cost is estimated at about $35,000.

When the work is finished, it is contemplated to employ reputable and competent teachers, male and female, to take charge of those institutions, where the higher branches of education will be taught, and thereby the inconvenience and expense of sending the youths of the nation to distant schools to complete their education, will be superseded.

Within the six weeks last past, there has been several camp meetings held in different parts of the nation. Those meetings have been generally very well attended—the meeting held in the vicinity of Tah-le-quah, very numerously; and it is gratifying to be enabled to state, on reliable authority, that the Cherokee people, when assembled at those meetings of public worship, have behaved with becoming decency and order, and that a goodly increase of members have been added to the church. Native preachers of different denominations, as well as white men preachers attached to the different churches, meet together at those appointed camp meetings, and labored in brotherly concert to promote the great cause of religion and morality, and their united labors seem to indicate quite an encouraging effect.

In regard to missionary institutions in the Cherokee nation, I believe there are no changes in the administration or government of those institutions since my last report. I will barely remark, however, that the American board of commissioners for foreign missions have four stations in the nation, as I learn from the report forwarded me by the Rev. Mr. Worcester.

The Methodist Episcopal church in the nation is supplied with two missionary preachers, under whose direction there are five native, and five white men preachers. The information in regard

to the Methodist Episcopal church, however, is predicated on the report I received last year.

The Baptist Cherokee mission, I have been informed, organized themselves into an auxiliary missionary society to the mother board in Boston. This mission supports, by their united efforts, two schools.

The missions of the United Brethren's church at this time, I believe, have but one school in operation in the nation, which is under the care of the Rev. David Z. Smith.

It may be proper to remark, that I have addressed letters to the following gentlemen, requesting them to report to me in detail the condition and progress of the institutions under their respective charges, to wit: Dr. Butler, of Fairfield mission; Rev. Mr. Willie, of Dwight mission; Rev. Mr. Ruble, of the Methodist Episcopal church; Rev. Mr. Jones, of the Cherokee Baptist auxiliary society; and the Rev. Z. Smith, of the United Brethren's church. I have also addressed Mr. Payne, commissioner of common schools, and Mr. Reese, secretary of the temperance society, requesting an official report from each; but from some cause, I have received no communication or reports from any of the above named gentlemen, in reference to the objects embraced in my letters.

The only report I have received is from Mr. Worcester, of Park Hill Mission, which I herewith transmit. Should the other reports asked for, or any of them, be sent on before it is too late to meet the wishes of the government, and afford the information desired, I will immediately forward them to the Department. I have waited for those reports to the last hour.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

JAMES McKISICK,
Cherokee Agent.

Col. SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD,
Acting Sup. Western Territory, Choctaw Agency.

No. 19.

CHICKASAW AGENCY,
September 21, 1847.

SIR: No very material change has taken place since my last annual report; the most important is the arrival of forty Chickasaws that emigrated themselves from their old nation in Mississippi, to their new country west, and they appear much better pleased with their new country than they expected.

A number of Chickasaws, who have been living in the Choctaw district, since their removal west, have, within the last nine months, moved into their new district, and a number are making arrangements to move in this winter.

I feel satisfied now that in the course of a few years all the Chickasaws will be once more together; and they ought to be so, for they have a beautiful country, well adapted to all their wants, with a fine climate, and they will be much better contented; there

will not then be that jealousy existing among them that did exist a few years since, and the unkind feelings which exist between them and some of the Choctaws, I think, will be entirely removed. They will be more convenient to the place of paying their annuities and their schools, (should they have any.) They have fine crops this year of corn, cotton, oats, potatoes, &c. Their supply of corn this year will be very great, larger than it was the last year; their stocks of horses, cattle, and sheep are improving, but they have not succeeded so well in raising hogs as they ought; it only requires a little attention to raise fine hogs in this country.

But, sir, I must say that the Chickasaws are improving every year in their habits of industry. I know of but few in the nation that do not make more corn than will subsist them; they raise a great many fowls, and those that are situated within from 10 to 20 miles of Fort Washita, furnish it with butter, potatoes, chickens, eggs, &c. The merchants generally get contracts to furnish the fort with corn, but they are furnished by the Chickasaws. This year the contract is for only seven thousand bushels, the Indians could furnish forty thousand at the contract price, which is 43 cents, but their corn will be of little use to them, as they have no way of shipping it to any foreign country. Had they navigation, their country would be much more valuable, but they can in this country live very independently.

They last year received an annuity of seventy thousand dollars, but they have since requested that upwards of a hundred thousand should be paid to them this year. They strongly insist on receiving the interest on their vested funds yearly as annuity, except what they wish for schools, and to pay blacksmiths, and for iron, steel, &c., all of which is agreeable to the 11th section of the treaty of 24th May, 1834, between the United States and the Chickasaw Indians.

At this time there is no school among the Chickasaws; a young man, by the name of Akin, belonging to the Methodist Episcopal church, taught school a few months this year, and he had from thirty to forty scholars; but, from some cause or other, he did not suit, or the Indians did not suit him, and he left. For nearly three years the Chickasaws have been trying to make arrangements to have a large manual labor academy, but have failed in their arrangements until a short time since. I heard through the Rev. Mr. Browning, that the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs had made arrangements with the Rev. Mr. Berryman to establish an academy among the Chickasaws; but, as yet, I nor the Chickasaws know nothing of the agreement; the cause probably was the death of Major Armstrong, the last acting superintendent west, which caused a suspension in business in that department. I presume that I will shortly be informed on the subject by yourself.

The Chickasaws have great anxiety to have their children educated, and what is most astonishing, the full-bloods show as great a desire as the half-breeds; but they are *all* very anxious on this

all-important subject, and I am in hopes, in a few years, to see at least three large institutions of learning in the Chickasaw district.

At this time there are no preachers of any denomination in the Chickasaw district, which I regret very much, for there certainly is room for some of these good people, and subjects for them to teach the everlasting truths of the blessed gospel.

The Chickasaws have been harrassed by the Kickapoos, and some of the travelling Cherokee horse thieves. The Kickapoos were sent out of this country in 1841; they got permission from the Creeks to settle in a part of their country; they go every fall to the State of Texas to hunt. Hunting is their occupation, but from the best information I can get, they commit depredations upon the citizens of Texas, and upon the Indians south of Red River. In a letter I received from Major Neighbors, agent for the Texas Indians, he informed me that they had stolen upwards of two hundred mules and horses from Texans and Indians. The Kickapoos are furnished with an outfit of powder, lead, and other articles, by the merchants that are licensed to trade with the Indians north of Red river; they generally get those articles on a credit, with a promise that they will bring in their peltries in the spring. They do bring in a good many peltries, and they bring in a good many horses and mules also; and, as they travel through the Chickasaw country, they steal horses and kill the stock sometimes of the Chickasaws. This hunting band of Kickapoos, I think, are as void of principle as any Indians can be. It would be of great benefit to the south-western country if the Kickapoos and Cherokees could be made to go to their own nation, where they could be controlled by their agent and chiefs. The command at Fort Washita has been so reduced (which is now only a part of one company of infantry) that it is impossible to keep those roving bands out of the country, or to keep them from going into the State of Texas. I am in hopes that in a short time a company of dragoons may be ordered to the post, but, as it is, every exertion is used by that diligent and most excellent officer, Brevet Major George Andrews, United States army, to render me every assistance in keeping every thing quiet on this frontier.

The public smiths for the Chickasaws have all discharged their duty faithfully this year. As another report will be made by me during this winter, I will close this.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

A. M. M. UPSHAW,

United States Agent for the Chickasaws.

COL. S. M. RUTHERFORD,

Acting Superintendent Western Territory.

No. 19½.

CREEK AGENCY, *November* 9, 1847.

SIR: In conformity with the regulations of the War Department, I beg leave to submit the following as a report of the condition of the subjects of this agency.

It affords me true pleasure to be able to note the continued advance of the Creeks in all that pertains to civilization and enlightenment. It has been very truly remarked that the progress of Indians generally, in the arts and habits of civilized life, is so extremely slow, as to scarcely attract notice, even through a course of years. In our first acquaintance with them we perceive them to be a wandering predatory people, subsisting upon the results of the chase and the spoils of war. In emerging from this state, we still observe that they are disposed to evade most of the laws and principles of civilized life, addicted to vice in its worst shapes, and averse from, and prejudiced against, all that would have a tendency to ameliorate their condition and reform their habits.

In my first official acquaintance with these people, in 1838, and but a short time after the emigration west of a considerable portion of them, they possessed the character of an agricultural people—not always, indeed, devoting their time and attention to farming operations after the modern manner, but still producing by their labor a sufficiency of corn and other vegetable productions for their consumption; some of them, the wealthy slaveholders particularly, raising large quantities of surplus for sale. They were, however, at that time far from being a happy or contented people. The nation was divided into two parties, each rivalling the other in animosity and bitter hatred, excited with jealousy and discord, and requiring great exertions on the part of the government officers to prevent bloodshed and bring about an amicable understanding. At that time very few of them could be said to be exempt from the vice of drunkenness. Carousals, frolics, and gambling could be daily witnessed in all public places, by all classes and sexes. Prostitution and poverty abounded, and the former was so general as to cause several portions of the nation to acquire a notorious fame. Religion was scoffed at and made a mockery of, and all efforts that were made to introduce schools and education proved utter failures. At that time an individual appeared to be moved by no other incentive but that actuated by nature, for food and clothing. Had he money or valuables, it was quickly lavished in the indulgence of ardent liquors or lascivious pleasures, he having the assurance that after all was gone, his gun (game being then abundant) would still produce a further supply sufficient for his wants. Now, a wonderfully visible improvement is apparent. Gradually, and as the game has disappeared, the Creeks have been taught the advantage of placing their dependence upon their skill and labor. Blessed with a country of abundant extent, well timbered and watered, of fertile soil and of comparative healthfulness, offering every facility for the rearing of stock, and for the following of agricultural pursuits, they were ultimately persuaded

to seize that which they so bountifully possessed, and which so alluringly tempted them to change their condition, and to become a sober, steady, and industrious community, seating themselves at their homes, rendered permanent to them by the assurance of the government of the United States, and appreciating and enjoying all the comforts and endearments of the social circle. So it is, and this is the picture I have to present of the Creeks generally at the present time; and, moreover, as their moral character and condition has improved, their mental capacities have increased as a consequence. They have become conscious of the advantages accruing to them from receiving and encouraging religion and education, upon which subjects they feel a great interest. The prejudices formerly indulged against the people of the United States have become extinct, and the fostering care and kindness of the general government understood and appreciated. At peace among themselves, and upon the warmest expressions of friendship with their neighbors—with all the elements of prosperity around them—they present every appearance of a happy and contented people.

I mentioned in my report of last year that the Creeks would have a large surplus of corn left for sale; so it proved to be, nearly 100,000 bushels having been exported from the country, a large portion of which was purchased for shipment to Ireland and other foreign countries. It is computed that about 1,000 head of pork hogs were sold during the winter. The large stocks of cattle owned by the Creeks have attracted the attention of drovers from Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana, and several hundred head were sold to them during the spring and summer. The crops of the present year are good, though, owing to the extremely backward spring and wet summer, not so much surplus will be left as from those of last year. Large numbers of pork hogs will be offered for sale during the approaching winter.

Much may be said upon the subject of whiskey; I will, however, confine myself to a few remarks. I made it my first duty, upon the reception of the Commissioner's letter, accompanied by a copy of the late act of Congress in regard to the sale and introduction of liquor into the Indian country, to make known the same to the authorities of the nation, and to express to them my determination to rigorously enforce it, without respect to persons. It may be proper to remark here, that I have, from time to time, labored assiduously to convince the chiefs that much, if not all, rested with themselves to suppress the trade; and I so far succeeded as to cause, three several times, a decree to be passed by the general council ordering the destruction of all liquors that could be found, and subjecting the punishment of a hundred lashes upon all who might thereafter introduce it. The consequence was, for a short time, none of it was to be seen; but the high price of it, in consequence of its scarcity, was too great a temptation to the cupidity of some of the chiefs themselves, and others possessing great influence, who immediately entered into the trade, and maintained the monopoly of it until it became known to those in the habit of pursuing it as an avocation, who again engaged in it. It

is brought in by the Indians exclusively, who send or take canoes or boats into the State; obtaining their lading about nightfall, they immediately depart, keeping under the high banks of the river to evade notice; when they arrive at home it is safely secreted, and sold out by jugfulls to others who attend the gatherings, and who retail it out by the dram. Many of the chiefs, and all the enlightened portion of the community, have expressed pleasure at the exertions of the government to remedy this evil, and have assisted me in ferretting out and destroying several barrels. The last general council passed a resolution to co-operate with me in prohibiting its introduction, and ordaining its destruction wherever found. I am, however, I regret, not prepared to say that there is no liquor in the country; that there is some I am convinced, for there are many who have expressed themselves determined to keep it, saying that they are a free people, entitled to their privileges equally with the whites; "and should the government build walls around their country as high as the trees, they will still find means to bring whiskey to all those who want it."

I have to notice the arrival in their new country of thirteen self-emigrant Creeks, with their negroes, &c. They have expressed themselves delighted with their new homes on this fertile soil; have raised excellent crops and are now vigorously engaged in forming farms. The most of them have enjoyed excellent health; they are all of the better class, and will add, from their experience gained by a long residence among a respectable and enterprising white community, much to the growing prosperity of the country.

The school at the Presbyterian mission has continued in regular and successful operation during the year. No detailed report of its condition has, however, been furnished me.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES LOGAN,
Creek Agent.

Hon. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 20.

SEMINOLE SUB-AGENCY,
September 30, 1847.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations, I herewith report the condition of the Seminoles.

They are at peace and on good terms with all the surrounding tribes, although there is considerable jealousy existing between them and the Creeks; they apparently believing that the Creeks are over anxious to bring them absolutely and entirely under the Creek laws; and the Creeks, on the other hand, distrustful of the disposition of the Seminoles to submit to such restrictions, as they consider by treaty, they have a right to impose. However, I have

no anticipations of trouble between them should a proper course of policy be adopted by the Creeks, which I have no right to doubt will be done.

The health of the Seminoles has been generally good, and I think their numbers rather increasing than otherwise; but a correct census not having been taken, as contemplated, it is impossible, as yet, to state positively any thing about their numbers.

The crops have been very abundant, much more being raised than will be required for the subsistence of the tribe; in fact, I think they will bear a comparison, as *agriculturists*, with almost any tribe on this border. Their crops consist of corn, rice, potatoes, pumpkins, groundnuts or goober peas, beans, &c.

The hunt of last year was, in a measure, unsuccessful, and the Indians have not, in so great a number, engaged in it this fall. The debts which they incurred for goods preparatory to going out last season, have not yet been entirely extinguished, and the price of peltry, at present, holds out but poor inducements to the hunter, particularly where game is as scarce as it is in this country.

The goods, &c., furnished per treaty, January 4, 1845, did not give that satisfaction which was desired, although it relieved their wants to a considerable extent. They complained of the great quantity of strouding and such other articles as cost high. They wish such goods furnished as will be suitable for the women and children—blankets, linseys, domestics of different kinds, and common prints.

They also complain that there are balances of money, under old treaties, which, if not annulled by the war, are still due, and which they ask may be paid.

Whiskey continues to be introduced into the country; in fact the late law has considerably animated the trade, from the belief that it would now be worth more, the danger of introducing it being enhanced. My own opinion has ever been that the law does more injury than good, aside of the policy of passing laws which cannot be enforced; and it is impossible for agents to keep it out of the country so long as the Indians themselves desire to bring it in.

The subject of education is thought about as little of, as if it was only intended for white people. They feel themselves, and desire to be considered, as decidedly beyond the pale of civilization, perfectly satisfied to walk in the "footsteps of their predecessors," showing, as far as mental improvement is concerned, a philosophy in being satisfied with their present state, which, considering their being human, is truly astonishing. Other people make serious charges against Providence for their misfortunes, troubles, or wants, but the Seminoles never accuse the "Great Spirit" of doing any injury, but give him the credit side of the account, and leave Istahutkee to answer for the debit.

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Respectfully submitted, by your most obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,
Seminole Sub-Agent.

To Hon. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 21.

New York Sub-agency,
Ellicottville, September 30, 1847.

Sir: In pursuance of the regulations of the Department, I have the honor herewith to submit to you a statement of the present condition of the Indians within the limits of this sub-agency.

Very little of change in their general circumstances has taken place since the date of my last report. During the summer, I have visited each of the bands, except those residing at Tonawanda, and was able to observe but little alteration in their prospects, and that in the direction of a gradual improvement and progress in their agricultural pursuits. The season has been highly favorable to the growth and maturity of their crops; and the aggregate produce of the harvest must greatly exceed the supply required for their subsistence. I am happy to perceive among them a growing spirit of industry—slight and gradual, it is true, but still advancing—which is manifested in clearing new lands, enclosing the old with better fences, and erecting and repairing both houses and barns; and there are now but few families who have not comfortable homes and a sufficient supply of the necessaries of life.

The condition of their schools is about the same as at the date of my report last year. An increased interest is likely to arise in regard to them, through appropriations that have recently been made by the State of New York, for the purpose of building houses and employing teachers. At St. Regis and Onondaga, these houses have been already erected, and in each of them schools are now in successful operation. A house will be erected the present season at Cattaraugus, and one at Allegany the ensuing summer, with the funds thus provided by the State. Among the Senecas, a deep solicitude is felt by a few of the more enlightened and intelligent chiefs for the prosperity of the schools, and the subject is seriously discussed among them of appropriating to educational purposes the whole or a large part of their lost annuities, should they succeed in recovering them through the agency of the commission authorized by Congress at its session of 1846.

The difficulty that existed at Cattaraugus last year in relation to the law of New York, passed in 1845, for the protection and improvement of the Seneca Indians, I am happy to say, appears to be entirely removed. At a recent council held there for the payment of annuities, I observed that the dissenting chiefs, comprising in their number many valuable men, had enrolled their names under the law, and were present participating in the proceedings. A spirit of harmony and good feeling prevailed during the entire council; and the organization, in pursuance of the act referred to, appears to be complete, and under circumstances highly favorable for testing the application of the principles of civil government to the affairs of the Indians.

The Tonawanda band still refuse to leave their reservation, or to accept the annuities which arise from the sale of it. The Ogden

Company have, however, sold parcels of it to different individuals, and twelve or fifteen families have settled upon it under such purchases. In attempting to settle upon this tract, while in the possession of the Indians, many unpleasant contentions and controversies have arisen, involving serious consequences, and resulting in complaints in our criminal courts. If this mode of settlement is continued on the part of the purchasers, these troubles must inevitably be increased, and assume still more serious aspects as they progress from time to time. The company claim the right to enter upon any portion of these lands which they find vacant, by virtue of their purchase; and the Indians insist that no purchase of the lands has been made that is binding upon them, and that their possession of a part is possession of the whole. They express a willingness to have the whole question tested in a court of justice, and to abide the decision of any competent legal tribunal. At the same time, they declare that they will not be driven off by the company by force in the manner attempted, and will defend their possessions to the shedding of blood.

It is of vast importance to the Indians, and to all concerned, that this controversy should be ended by a settlement of the dispute. Until this be done, the Tonawanda band cannot be expected to advance in the same proportion as their other brethren. Their time is engrossed with this (to them) absorbing question, and their energies are directed towards warding off or counteracting the efforts made to remove them. In these efforts are absorbed a very large portion of their annuities, so much so, that of their share of the permanent annuity for the present year no part of it was distributed to the people. In the meantime, their schools are neglected, and, for a considerable period, none has been kept within the boundaries of the reservation. Aside from providing for the support of their families, the one great business of their lives seems to be the adoption of means to preserve their homes and lands, and to annul or defeat the contract or treaty under which they are claimed.

I do not feel competent to suggest a course proper to be pursued under these circumstances. I regarded it as a duty to present the facts to the Department, and have done so in the hope that some remedy may be devised for existing and accumulating evils.

Some time in August last, about 94 of the emigrating Indians, who removed west last summer (1846) in the charge of Dr. Hogeboom, returned to this State, leaving some ten or twelve to follow this fall, after they have gathered and disposed of their crops. The whole number who emigrated, as nearly as can be ascertained, was 186. Of this number 82 died at the west, 10 are yet remaining there; and of those who have returned 20 have settled at Tuscarora, and the balance at Cattaraugus. They are all, I believe, with scarcely an exception, in a destitute condition, and many of them are yet suffering from disease. They are (most of them) quartered with their friends, and are kindly treated, so that their wants will be cared for, and no actual suffering is known or believed to exist among them.

There is yet an unsettled difficulty between the Tuscarora band and the Ogden Company, in relation to the valuation of their improvements. As this difficulty results from a contract entered into between the parties, in connexion with the treaty of 1838, but without the intervention of the government, I am not aware that the Department can have any control over it, or that any suggestions on my part are necessary in regard to it. I hope, however, it may be compromised without serious difficulty.

The population of the tribes within this sub-agency is gradually increasing, and apparently keeping pace with their improved circumstances. As nearly as I now can determine, they number at present as follows:

Senecas	2,700
St. Regis	457
Onondagas	375
Tuscaroras	300
Oneidas	210
Onondagas residing with the Senecas	140
Cayugas residing with the Senecas, about	60
Oneidas residing with the Senecas, about	30
	4,272

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. ANGEL, *Sub-agent.*

Hon. W. Medill,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 22.

Torrey's Trading House, *June* 22, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report of my proceedings and observations since the 16th May.

On the 22d of May, I arrived at the principal village of the Comanches, which was situated about one hundred miles north of Austin; the village consisted of about two hundred and fifty lodges. All the principal chiefs were present, with the exception of Santa Anna. The head chiefs were Pa-ha-yu-ca, Mo-co-cho-copie, and Po-chan-a-qua-hiep, with a large number of the principal men and warriors. I was met at some distance from the village by the head chief, and received a very friendly reception. I remained in their village three days, and was treated with the utmost kindness during my stay. The day after my arrival I held a council with them, and explained to them fully the action of the government in relation to their affairs; also the determination of the Department to do every

thing necessary for their benefit and welfare, which proved generally satisfactory.

During the talk I had the treaty read and interpreted to them; they appeared well satisfied, and made no objection to any of its provisions, until I explained the amendments, and informed them that the 3d and 5th articles were stricken out, when there were strong objections on the part of the chiefs to any alteration of the original treaty. Po-chan-a-qua-hiep (Buffalo Hump) said: "I cannot agree that the 3d article in the treaty shall be stricken out, for that article was put in at my request. For a long time a great many people have been passing through my country; they kill all the game, and burn the country, and trouble me very much. The commissioners of our great father promised to keep these people out of our country. I believe our white brothers do not wish to run a line between us, because they wish to settle in this country. I object to any more settlements. I want this country to hunt in."

Pa-ha-yu-ca said: "We all object to any alteration in the treaty. The men that made that treaty were the best men we had; and when we made it, we considered it all good, and I do not wish to alter it now. The third article was put in at the request of my principle war chief for the protection of my people."

I explained to them fully that the alteration made no difference in the general bearings of the treaty; and for their satisfaction read your letter of instructions as far as related to their affairs, and had it fully interpreted to them; after which they appeared to be well satisfied. I find that they are violently opposed to any extension of our settlements, and much annoyed by, and very suspicious of, any persons that visit their country. They made many remarks about the heretofore proposed line to be run between them and the whites, and wished to discuss that matter, which I saw would lead to warm words, as they appeared much excited when the subject was broached. I avoided all discussion of the matter; and when they wished to know how it would be adjusted, I told them I knew nothing in relation to it at present, but tried to satisfy them by an assurance that all those matters would be settled by the government in good time, and to their entire satisfaction. They finally, after much talk, agreed to defer all such matters; and, by the time our council was over, all appeared in good humor, and pledged themselves to do all in their power to carry the treaty into effect, and abide by its several stipulations.

For the last few months our settlements have extended very rapidly, and, unless checked, will continue to do so; also, frequently large parties of surveyors penetrate many miles into the country now occupied by the Indians. These movements keep the Comanches and many other tribes in continual excitement; and unless some measures can be adopted by the Department to check the surveyors, it will finally lead to serious difficulties. From these causes the Comanches are in a doubtful state of quietness, and there is no telling how soon there will be a general outbreak among them. The present laws of Texas do not acknowledge that the Indians have any right of soil; and those persons holding land claims

contend that they have the privilege of locating wherever they choose. Under these circumstances the Department must be aware that the agent of the Indians can effect but little towards preventing those persons from going into the Indian country.

These parties do not in any manner interfere with the Indians or molest their property. They confine themselves entirely to surveying, and treat the Indians in the kindest manner whenever they approach them in a friendly way.

I have watched their movements narrowly, and can see nothing wherein they violate the treaty stipulations with the Indians; the only cause of dissatisfaction being a jealousy on the part of the Indians that they will have their hunting grounds taken from them. The Comanche chief (Santa Anna) talks of these matters with more intelligence than any of the other chiefs, and is devotedly attached to the whites. He says if the other chiefs were better acquainted with the whites, all probability of war would cease; and that he does every thing in his power to induce them to remain quiet. The other chiefs are very jealous, and accuse him of having sold himself to the whites, &c. He recommends that a delegation of from fifteen to twenty of the principal chiefs of the Comanches be formed, at as early a period as convenient to the Department, to visit Washington and other parts of the United States; and is decidedly of opinion that such a measure would do more to secure their friendship and ensure peace than ten times the cost expended in presents.

I am decidedly of his opinion, and would respectfully, but earnestly, recommend its consideration to the Department.

Pa-ha-yu-ca, one of the principal chiefs, accompanied me to this place, and I gave him some presents. He left well satisfied.

On the 30th of May, I arrived at the village of the Caddoes, Ionies, and Onadakoes, situated on the Brazos river, 45 miles from Torrey's trading house. I found everything perfectly quiet in their village, and the Indians well satisfied and friendly. They are cultivating large fields of corn, and appear to be in a prosperous condition. The village consists of about 150 houses, built of wood and covered with grass. I held a talk with the chiefs, and found everything in a healthy condition. From the frequent depredations committed by the Wacoes, Witchetas, Tah-wah-ca-roos, and Keechies, I found it necessary, at as early a day as possible, to give them my attention; and apprehending great personal risk in visiting their villages, well knowing their hostile character, I applied to Captain Howe, commandant of this frontier, for an escort of rangers for that purpose, and to assist in recovering horses that had been stolen from our citizens, as I was informed by good authority that there were a large number of stolen horses in their village. Captain Howe refused to furnish me the escort required, upon the grounds that he had no orders to send troops into the Indian country. Seeing the great necessity of action, I determined, at all risk, to go to their village, and accordingly engaged the services of a small party of Delaware Indians—six in number—to accompany me.

On application to the chief of the Onadakoes, he sent Pow-iash, second chief, with six of his warriors with me; Jose Maria, the

principal chief, having been thrown from his horse and badly injured, was unable to accompany me in person.

On the 10th instant, we arrived at the village of the hostile bands, and, finding that the friendly Indians would sustain me in any measures I might adopt towards them, I determined on the boldest course as the best that could be adopted. Accordingly, as soon as the chiefs could be assembled, I made a formal demand of the horses, and threatened them, in the strongest terms, if my request was not complied with. After much counselling among themselves, we were invited to a council in their village. We attended the council and were treated in a most friendly manner. Our council lasted four days, during which time all matters of difference were discussed at length, and the following conditions agreed upon:

1. That they were to restore all the horses and mules, &c., that had been stolen, both from the whites and friendly Indians, since the treaty was concluded between them and the United States Commissioners.

2. That they are not to steal any more horses or mules from the whites or friendly Indians, or commit any act of hostility whatever.

3. When all the stolen property is given up they are to be entitled to all the privileges of the treaty that they had violated, and shall be entitled to the same considerations as other tribes that are friendly with the United States.

In accordance with said agreement they delivered up 46 head of animals, which were all that were in the village, the largest portion having been driven to the main Witchita village, which is situated on the Witchita river. The chiefs present immediately despatched men for the horses, which are to be delivered up in the course of the next month. The Keechies, on my arrival at their village, immediately delivered into my possession seven head of stolen horses, which were all that that tribe had stolen. They also gave many proofs of friendship in the assistance they gave me against the Wacoes, Witchitas and Tah-wah-ca-roos. The friendly Indians that accompanied me (Powiash, Ionie and John Conner, a Delaware) gave me great assistance, and, by their untiring exertions to effect a friendly arrangement with these bands, gave evidence of the friendly disposition of the people, and their attachment to the United States. I have great confidence in the durability of the present friendly arrangements, and hope the Department will not in future be troubled with complaints of Indian depredations from these bands.

Having in the last month visited every band on our immediate borders, I can at present detect nothing of a hostile character, or that would induce me to apprehend anything like a general outbreak from any tribe. The depredations committed are confined almost entirely to horse-stealing; and I am confident that, in a short time, if the Department would allow me to call the assistance of troops for the arrest of said thieves, and bring them to proper punishment, our frontier would enjoy perfect tranquility.

At present none of our wild tribes are under the influence of

moral obligations. None consider it criminal to steal or murder, and they have no punishment for such offences. The authority of the chief only extends to the personal influence he may exercise. It therefore devolves entirely on the agent of the government to bring these thieves and murderers to punishment for such offences when it becomes necessary. I find, during the time there was no resident agent among the Indians, many vexatious disputes have arisen among the different bands—one between the Caddoes and Wacoes, on account of the Wacoes having stolen some horses from the Caddoes. The result was that the Caddoes killed two Wacoes, one of them a chief that visited Washington last summer. After much discussion I have settled the matter to the satisfaction of both parties.

I have used every exertion to settle all such matters, and am happy to say that I have been generally successful; and at present see no cause of dispute among the different bands. I would respectfully call the attention of the Commissioner to the necessity of employing a blacksmith for the Indians. I found, on my arrival at this point, that the Indians were much dissatisfied on account of the blacksmiths refusing to do their work as formerly. I was compelled to have their work done, and have agreed with Mr. Sutton (one of the smiths appointed by Messrs. Butler and Lewis) to do the work until the Department could advise me what course to adopt in relation to that matter.

I find some of the bands very destitute of clothing, and in some instances they find it difficult to subsist by hunting. The Comanches subsist to a great degree upon horses and mules. They all expressed much anxiety for the coming council, as they expect a good supply of clothing. I have done all in my power to impress upon them the necessity of settling down and making corn, and have used my influence to encourage those that were already engaged in farming.

The Caddoes, Onadakoes, Wacoes, Tah-wah-ca-roos, Keechies and Witchitas are making corn this year to a considerable extent. The Comanches, Lipans and Ton-kah-was subsist entirely by hunting.

At present all the tribes require constant attention, and, if we preserve peace, will require that attention for some time to come. From their great ignorance of the habits, manners and customs of civilized life, they are very credulous, and are liable at all times to be led astray by designing persons.

Having been informed, since my arrival at this point, of the intention of the government to establish immediately a line of posts on our Indian borders, this will supercede the necessity of any suggestions from me, as I am fully convinced that no other measure is so well calculated to hold those bands that may have a disposition to depredate so completely in check.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. S. NEIGHBORS,
Special Indian Agent.

Colonel W. Medill,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 23.

AUSTIN, TEXAS, *August* 5, 1847.

SIR: I this day arrived here from the Camanche country, after an absence of three weeks, and hasten to inform you that difficulties of a serious character have occurred between a band of that tribe and the surveyors employed by the German colonists.

The particulars, as far as I have been able to learn, are as follows, viz: About the 13th of July, ultimo, a party of Camanches made an attack upon four surveyors of Mr. Hays's company, and have either killed or taken them captive into their country. Information to this effect reached me by express from Colonel John C. Hays, commanding on the frontier, whilst on my way to the Indian country, the 16th of July, ultimo, requesting me to proceed immediately to the Camanche camp and ascertain the facts whether they had, or intended to commence hostilities. On my arrival in that section, I learned from the surveyors that immediately after the occurrence, the Camanche chief, Santa Anna, had went to the different parties of surveyors and notified them to leave that country, as his tribe would not permit further surveys to be made.

I found that the Camanches, a few days previous to my arrival, had, with all their families, horses, &c., started north for the "Grand Prarie." With the hope of overtaking and pacifying them, I followed in their trail about two hundred and fifty miles above the settlements, but found that they travelled with such speed that it was impossible for me to do so. I was accompanied by Jim Shaw and a small party of "Delawares," who deemed it imprudent to advance any further, should there even be a probability of reaching them in any short time.

I have taken measures to open a communication with them through the friendly tribes, and hope ere long to be able to lay before the Department their intentions. From the best information in my possession, the difficulty originated in a great measure from a failure on the part of the "German Emigration Company" to comply with stipulations of their contract, by sending their surveyors further up than the point agreed upon—the Camanches being at all times jealous of any encroachments by the whites, and much opposed to the extension of our settlements. From information derived from other friendly Indians, I learn they have been induced to believe by some few renegade Indians and Mexicans, residing at or about San Antonio, that the whites intend to deprive them of their whole country, and were preparing to make an attack upon them; which, I presume, was in part the cause of the difficulty and their precipitate flight from our borders. Being apprehensive that the disposition of our citizens to extend their surveying in that part of the country, until recently, alone frequented by them as their hunting ground, I considered it proper to call the attention of the Department to that subject—which I did in my report of June 22—and had hoped that before any difficulty transpired, I would have been advised what course to pursue, or language to hold to the In-

dians regarding the boundary between them and the whites. I am now more fully convinced than ever that our friendly relations with them cannot be maintained permanently until that question is finally settled and put at rest. Believing that the Executive of Texas might check the surveyors and prevent any further rupture or difficulty with them until the Department could advise me on the subject, I to-day conversed with him relative to the matter, but he assured me that there is no law that would authorize him to exercise such authority; yet he suggested that it would be well, and no doubt have a beneficial effect, for the Department to notify the surveyors that such as persisted in their encroachments on their hunting grounds and the Indians, that hostilities would be alone between them, and that the consequences would rest upon those thus intruding. As soon as I can see the Indians, every exertion will be used to pacify, correct the erroneous impressions made by designing persons, and induce them to await the further action of the government. I have learned since my arrival in the settlements that some difficulty also occurred between some prairie Indians, supposed to be "Lipans," and Mr. Lewis and his party, who were bearing despatches from Colonel John C. Hays to Major General Taylor, the Indians having attacked them on the "Lorado" road, about fifty miles from San Antonio, which resulted in the death of three of the Indians, and Mr. Lewis being badly wounded. They whipped off the Indians and succeeded in reaching "Lorado." In consequence of this, and information that they had stolen property, Colonel Hays despatched a small party of rangers to the "Lipan" camp, who, finding some of the property, attempted to recover it, when the Indians commenced stringing their bows, and gave other evidence of a disposition to fight; they were fired upon by the rangers, and one or two of them wounded; but they, with the balance of the band, made their escape.

These "Lipans" have resided on the Rio Grande and Neuces during the past summer, and beyond my control. I have sent for their chiefs to meet me at Torry's trading house, and hope, after the council, to induce them to occupy a position within my reach, so that they may have proper attention, and be prevented from committing any depredations should they be so inclined. So far as relates to these charges against the Lipans, I do not vouch for their correctness. Up to the present time all other tribes in Texas evince the most friendly disposition.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,
Special Indian Agent.

To Colonel W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 24.

Special Indian Agency,
Torrey's Trading House, September 14, 1847.

Sir: Having this day returned from the Indian country, I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report of my proceedings and observations, since the 9th of August:

Having failed to see the Camanches on my previous visit to their country, as reported, and apprehending serious difficulties with them, unless the evil influences under which they were laboring at the time were removed, I determined to use all the means in my power to open a communication with them at as early a period as practicable. For that purpose, on the 10th of August, I started for the trading house of Messrs. Torrey & Co. When about sixty miles west of Austin, I fell in with the main body of the Ton-ka-was, who informed me that the Camanches were located on the clear fork of the Brassos river, about 350 miles west of Austin. I found the Ton-ka-was, as usual, perfectly friendly. I arrived at this point on the 13th of August, and finding that the *presents* for the Indians had arrived at Galveston, made the necessary arrangements with Messrs. Torrey & Co., for their transportation to this place. I also entered into a contract with Mr. George Barnard to furnish the supply of provisions necessary for the coming council.

These arrangements were all completed by the 20th, on which day I started for the Camanche country. On the 23d, I arrived at the village of the Caddoes, Ionees, and Onadakoes. I had a talk with the chiefs, and found them all perfectly peaceable and friendly. The drought has been excessive during the whole summer; and although the crops were very promising in the early part of the season, there was a perfect failure in the corn crop. They complain of great scarcity of provisions, and their chief, Jose Maria, said that it was with much difficulty their people were able to subsist; the tribes were necessarily much scattered in pursuit of game, and other means of subsistence. I found also that large quantities of whiskey had been introduced among them since my former visit, which has in some degree disorganized them. These Indians are very fond of spirits, and it is with much difficulty that I can get sufficient information from them to arrest the trade. The chiefs have now pledged themselves to give me information in future, that will enable me to stop its importation into their country.

On the 28th, I arrived at the village of the Keechies, about 175 miles above this place, where I found a considerable body of Indians of the following tribes, viz: Keechies, Caddoes, Ionees, Wacoes, Tah-wa-caros, Wichitas, and some few Pawnee Mahaws. They were assembled for the purpose of holding a grand medicine dance, which was in full operation at the time of my arrival, and continued for four days afterwards.

I found the Indians residing in that neighborhood, viz: the Keechies, Wacoes, Wichitas, and Tah-wah-caros, (whose village is about six miles further up the river,) in a very contented and happy condition, they having made fine crops of corn, beans, pump-

kins, melons, &c. We were treated in a very kind and hospitable manner by them, invited to their dance, and furnished with what provisions we required. They appeared *very* friendly, and in the several talks held with them during my stay, expressed themselves willing to abide by the friendly arrangements made with them when I visited their country in June last.

I can as yet trace no act of hostility or theft to them since that time. The only point wherein they have failed, is in the delivery of a large portion of the stolen property. They make many excuses on that point, and still detain a large number of stolen horses—which can only be recovered by a resort to force. Having no instructions to that effect, I have thought it best to let that matter rest for the present, provided they do not commit some other act of hostility.

I would respectfully call the attention of the Commissioner to an act of rascality which transpired in the Wichita village, (as detailed to me by the Wichita chief, Tah-wah-kee, or White Crane,) soon after the visit of the detachment of the United States dragoons from Fort Smith to their country. A trader from the Choctaw nation (whom I have since learned is named Dick Humphreys) accompanied the dragoons, and remained for the purpose of trading with the Indians. He was at the village at the time of the arrival of the chiefs, who were despatched for the stolen horses in that country. I gave the chiefs a paper certifying their intentions, and a copy of the agreement made with me by the chiefs of the Wichitas. The Wichitas wishing to know the contents of the paper, gave it to the trader to read to them. He told them that the paper required them to deliver up *only* ten good horses, and that they might keep and sell the balance. They accordingly brought in but ten head of animals. I have since been creditably informed, that Humphreys purchased a large number of horses and mules from the Indians at that time.

We were detained, on account of heavy rains and high water, for several days at the Keechie village, and on the 2d instant, Mo-po-cho-ko-pee, (Old Owl,) 2d chief of the Camanches, with several chiefs and a large party arrived at our camp.

As soon as the usual ceremony of smoking was over, we commenced a *talk*, in which we fully discussed the cause that led to their flight from their usual hunting grounds. As I anticipated, the difficulty was caused in part by misunderstanding with the surveyors of the German colonists; but principally by false representations made them by the Mexicans at the town of San Antonio. From the best information that I am able to acquire from the Indians, there is a considerable party of Mexicans at that place, who are opposed to the United States government, and are doing all in their power to create disaffection among our several bands of Indians. Although I have given that matter my attention, I have as yet been unable, from the great caution with which they have conducted their attacks, and the many jealousies growing out of the unsettled state of our Indian affairs with which I have to contend, to ascertain the names and exact location of the offenders.

Mo-po-cho-ko-pee informed me that one of his war chiefs visited San Antonio, about the middle of July, and saw a large number of troops—probably Colonel Hays's regiment. The Mexicans informed him that these troops were raised expressly to make war with the Indians; he immediately became frightened, and returned to camp with the startling news. About the same time, Mo-po-cho-ko-pee, with another party, met some German surveyors with a Mexican interpreter, who informed him that the whites were about to send troops into the Camanche country, to kill the whole of them and dispose of their lands. Immediately on the receipt of this intelligence, although himself and Santa Anna did not believe it, and used all means in their power to prevent any movement, the whole band determined to abandon their hunting grounds, and located themselves beyond the reach of our troops. They disavow any intention to commence hostilities.

On the 6th instant, I assembled the different tribes at the Keechie village, and held a council with them; when I announced to them the arrival, at Torrey's trading house, of the presents promised by their President. The announcement was hailed with general satisfaction; and the several tribes have agreed to assemble at this place, for the purpose of receiving them, at the full moon, 25th of September.

The Camanche chiefs, Mo-po-cho-ko-pee and Santa Anna, have given many evidences, within the few last months, of their attachment to the whites, and their determination to abide by the stipulations of the treaty. About the middle of August, a band of about 600 Kiowas, on their way to this frontier, were met by the Camanches at the clear fork of the Brassos. The Kiowas avowed their intention to commit depredations on our settlements. The Camanches immediately interfered, and informed them that the whites were their friends, and if they committed any act of hostility, they (the Camanches) would make war upon the Kiowas; this induced them to fall back. After the Kiowas abandoned their hostile intentions, they expressed a wish to attend our councils, and make a treaty with the whites. I should have brought them in if they had been within a reasonable distance, but found their village to be on the waters of the Canadian, and my other duties would not admit of my going so far for them. The Camanches informed me, that if I did not go in person they would not attend the council.

Notwithstanding the many rumors that found their way into the newspapers of this country of Indian depredations, I sincerely believe that our friendly relations with the wild, or prairie Indians generally, are on a firmer basis at this time than at any former period. There has not been, to my knowledge, a single act of hostility committed within the limits of our settlements, and but one act (the murder or capture of the surveyors mentioned in my report of August 9th) within the limits of this agency since my report of 22d June.

I have had information of depredations committed on the Rio Grande, but the Department must be aware that an agent can exer-

cise no influence over those bands, who visit the vicinity of our troops on the Mexican frontier.

These reports have prevented the friendly intercourse and confidence that would otherwise have existed between the Indians and our frontier settlers, and it is with the utmost exertion that I have been able to keep peace with them; in fact, I have been in the limits of the settlements but one day since the 16th of July.

I would respectfully call the attention of the Department to the fact that large quantities of spirits are regularly introduced among our wild Indians by the nations residing east of Red river. While at the Keechie village, a party of these traders, (six men in all; two whites, Robt. Wilson and son, three Beluxies, and one Creek Indian,) arrived at that place with about 40 gallons of whiskey and a quantity of powder and lead. I had no force to arrest them, but induced them to return without disposing of their goods, by threatening to induce the Indians to seize their goods and put them to death if they commenced the trade.

Also, on the 11th instant, I fell in with a party of Cherokees, with six kegs (30 gallons) of whiskey, (on their way to the Caddoe and Ionie village,) which I seized and destroyed. The Indians are disposed to think I have done them injustice; and I should be pleased if the Commissioner would give me some definite instructions as to the manner of proceeding in such cases.

In the absence of all law regulating intercourse with our wild bands, and the serious difficulties attending the introduction of ardent spirits into their country, I shall be compelled, for self-preservation and the protection of our frontier settlers, to deal with the traders in the most summary manner. Not wishing to do so, until full notice was given to all concerned, I have, thus far, confined myself to the destruction of the spirits, and warning the offenders of the consequences of the second offence.

Since my last report, the ranging companies, ordered for the frontier defence, have arrived at their several stations. There are two companies stationed on the Brassos river, near this trading post. Captain Ross, who is in command, is using very active measures to arrest the traffic in whiskey, and to prevent evil disposed persons from going into the Indian country, The most friendly understanding exists between the Indians and troops; and although the latter have been scarcely a month on the frontier, the effect of their presence is very perceptible, in the perfect quietness and general good conduct of the Indians.

For the information of the Department, I deem it proper to state that the principal war chief of the Camanches, Buffalo Hump, is still in Mexico, on a foray, with from six to eight hundred warriors. He crossed the Rio Grande, near the mouth of the Pureo, about the first of August; since then, I am unable to trace his route, but learn that he designs visiting Chihuahua, Parros, and surrounding country; on his return to attack some of the towns on the Rio Grande, probably San Fernando, or its vicinity. One of his avowed intentions, is revenge for the defeat of a party of Camanches, near Parros, by the Missouri volunteers.

Since my communication of the 9th of August I have not been able to see any of the Lipans. I am informed by the Camanches, that they have joined a band of Apaches, who, at present, are located on the Rio Pureo, about 400 miles west of this place. I shall, as soon as the present council is over, take measures to open a communication with them. The Camanches assure me that they have no hostile intention.

Finding that the different bands of Indians were much scattered, it became absolutely necessary to employ one additional interpreter, during the time the Indians were assembling, to hold the coming council. I therefore, on the 20th August, employed Colonel L. H. Williams, as interpreter for the Caddoes, Ionies, &c., during the time of council, which I hope will meet with the approbation of the Commissioner.

I feel fully assured that I shall be able, during the coming council, to remove everything like disaffection from the several tribes, and hope to combat successfully *all* evil influences that have been brought to bear on our wild or prairie tribes.

I deem it unnecessary to make any further suggestions at present, as the council is close at hand, when all matters appertaining to our relations and measures for the preservation of peace with the wild tribes will be properly considered, and the developments laid before the Department, at as early a day as practicable.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. S. NEIGHBORS,
Special Indian Agent.

To Col. W. Medill,
Com'r of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 25.

United States Special Indian Agency,
October 12, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report of my proceedings and observations siuce the 14th of September:

In accordance with the contract made for the transportation of the Indian goods, they arrived at this point on the 24th of September. On comparing the contents of the several packages with the invoice, I found them all correct and in good order. Mr. Barnard also complied promptly in furnishing the necessary supplies of provisions, and at the time appointed (the 25th September) everything was in readiness, and most of the bands of Indians had already assembled for the purpose receiving their presents.

The several bands having been much scattered, I could not commence the distribution until the 28th, by which time they were all well represented, there being in attendance the following tribes and bands, viz: The Camanches, Ionies, Caddoes, Onadahkos, Wacoes, Keechies, Wichitas, Tahwaccaros, Tonkahwas, and the

bands of Delawares, Shawnees, and Cherokees that reside in Texas, also some few Beluxies, Kickapoos, and Pawnee Mohaws.

There were also in attendance a considerable number of our citizens, with Lieutenant Colonel H. P. Bell, commanding this frontier, and several other officers. On the 27th, the chiefs were all assembled in council, and the treaty read and explained to the several bands. Also, the views contained in your several communications, so far as was deemed most proper for the maintenance of our peaceful and friendly relations with them. From the best estimate that could be formed, there were present at the council about 2,200 Indians of all classes. Among the number were counted *sixty chiefs* of the several bands. The Camanches are fewer in number, in proportion to the number of their tribe, than any other, although three out of the four principal chiefs were in attendance, viz: Pa-ha-yu-ca, Mo-po cho-ko-pee, and Santa Anna. Po-chana-qua-heip, the principal war-chief, being on a foray in Mexico with most of the warriors, was the cause of the small attendance from this tribe.

During the council I avoided as much as possible any discussion of land matters, or questions of boundary, but assured the Indians again of the intention of the Department to "do them justice in all matters," and that the general government would settle all such matters in proper time to their entire satisfaction. I directed my attention particularly to counteracting the many evil influences that have been brought to bear on the several bands within the last few months, and, as far I could, to ferret out the persons who had been practising on their credulity.

I found, from conversations had with the several chiefs, that the late misunderstanding was caused by *lies* that had been circulated among them. Some by the Mexican residents of San Antonio, some by the small bands of Indians that visit the prairie tribes for the purpose of trade, but principally by the German emigrants who are settling in the immediate vicinity of the country now occupied by the Camanche Indians. The three principal chiefs of the Camanches assured me that Dr. Shubert, an agent of the German colonists, had informed them that the troops raised last summer in Texas were for the purpose of making war on the several bands of Indians, and that the government designed to have them *all massacred* when they met in council this fall. About the 1st of September Santa Anna, with a small party, started for San Antonio, he passed through two of the German settlements, and was again told that he would be put to death if he visited the American settlements, and other falsehoods well calculated to alarm him. The consequence was, he returned without visiting San Antonio, where he was anxious to go for the purpose of seeing Colonel Bell, as he wished to assure him of the friendly disposition of the Camanches.

Although our frontier settlers have several times this summer been greatly alarmed, and the newspapers of Texas have published numerous rumors of "Indian hostilities," I am unable, (although I have been considerably associated with the several bands during the whole summer,) to trace any disposition in any band to com-

mence hostility; in fact, the great fears expressed by almost all the bands of an intention on the part of the *whites* to commence war, show plainly that they do not wish to engage in a war that they *all* know to be profitless; and I am convinced that, if the Indians can possibly avoid it, we will have no Indian war at present. These reports are circulated by designing persons to serve their own ends, and it is greatly to be regretted that our public journals should give them publicity, as the circulation of such reports is well calculated to prevent that friendly intercourse that would otherwise exist between our frontier settlers and the several Indian bands. Although these reports keep our border tribes in constant excitement, I have no fears of their leading to a general outbreak. I have been able, thus far, to contend successfully with all such evil influences. and from the many pledges given me during the council, I feel confident that they will have less weight in future.

I also endeavored, as far as practicable, to carry into effect the views contained in your communication of 2d of August, and have carefully avoided all promises for the future, and discouraged, as much as I deemed it proper to do so, all expectation of more presents. I have endeavored to have it expressly understood that they need not expect anything more until some further action of the government in the matter.

As evidences of the friendly dispositions of the Indians, I would respectfully call the attention of the Commissioner to the "talks" of the principal chiefs, which I have deemed proper to forward with this report. During the time the Indians remained at this place, they conducted themselves in such a manner as to inspire every one present with the belief that they were sincere in their many professions of friendship for the government and citizens of the United States; and each principal chief pledged himself, in presence of the assembled tribes, to assist the agent of the government in carrying into full effect the several stipulations of the treaty.

I would respectfully call the attention of the Commissioner to the great scarcity of provisions at present among the several prairie bands. Almost every tribe have made complaints of the difficulty they have in procuring the means of subsistence. I cannot see how they are to subsist during the present winter. The bands generally acknowledge the necessity of turning their attention to farming, and could be induced to do so with little trouble if they were provided with the means, and guarantied their lands. They will be obliged to turn their attention to agricultural pursuits for a livelihood, as the buffalo and other game have almost entirely disappeared from our prairies.

I have endeavored to encourage them in farming as much as possible, and have promised to assist such as wished it in procuring seed, &c., for their next planting. I have considered it my duty to discourage, as much as possible, the small bands of the tribes residing east of Red river from passing through the country occupied by the prairie Indians. Iin order more effectually to put a stop to these proceedings, I held a council with the bands of

these tribes that attended the council, and notified them that they must either return to their tribes or settle in some place where they could be held responsible for their acts.

The Delawares, Shawnees, and Cherokees, have agreed to settle and plant corn the next season, and I think their influence will be beneficial in inducing the wild bands to follow their example. In distributing the presents, I endeavored, as far as possible, to distribute them to the several tribes in proportion to their number; and as the number in attendance was not so great as I anticipated, I deemed it most proper not to make any material addition to the original purchases.

I expect, during the present fall, (as soon as the Camanche warriors arrive from Mexico,) large parties to visit the trading-house. It will probably be necessary to make some provision to give them some presents, and the small balance of the appropriation might be used in procuring provisions when the several bands visit the agency for the purpose of transacting their business.

During the whole time the Indians remained at this place, the utmost harmony prevailed, and they generally expressed themselves well satisfied with the treatment they received while here. The demand for provisions appeared to be greater than was anticipated. Although I exceeded the estimated quantity—about 20,000 pounds of beef—I was not more than able to supply the demand. By the 5th instant, the several bands had all departed for their hunting grounds, and we have perfect quietness on our frontier. I feel fully assured that, unless the Indians are improperly *interfered* with, we have nothing to fear for the future.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,
Special Indian Agent.

Col. Wm. Medill,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 26.

Report of F. H. Cumming, superintendent of the colony of Ottowa Indians at the Griswold mission, in the State of Michigan.

The present number of Indians comprising the band under the charge of the Protestant Episcopal church in the State of Michigan, and who receive pay from the government of the United States, is one hundred and nine.

The number of children who attend school varies from five to twenty-five. It is exceedingly difficult to secure the attendance of the children to the system of instruction devised for them. For this, various reasons might be assigned: the principal, however, will be found to be, their unwillingness to learn the English language; the indifference of the parents to the subject; the wandering mode

of life, to which they are proverbially partial. They must have their seasons for hunting, for making sugar, for attending to payment, and for visiting. When they go forth on any of these expeditions, *all* the members of each family go; consequently, the operations of the school must be suspended until they return.

The colony, when at home, are generally very regular in their attendance upon public worship twice on each Lord's day, are neat in their appearance, and seem to pay good attention to the services of the resident teacher and missionary, who preaches the Gospel to them by an interpreter, conducting, however, a good part of the worship in their own language.

The bishop of the diocese has lately procured for the mission a small but very fine toned organ, with which the Indians are much pleased. By means of this, the chaunts of the church are performed in their own tongue, or, in the words of the resident missionary and teacher, "the organ has been made to speak Indian."

The health of the band since the last report has generally been good. This may be attributed in no small degree to the disuse among them of ardent spirits. With very few exceptions, they have kept themselves free from drunkenness for the whole of the past year.

The band is at peace among themselves, and have made considerable advancement in the practical knowledge of agriculture. About sixty acres of their land is under good improvement. They have had very fine crops, the last year, of potatoes, corn, and wheat.

In visiting their huts, or rather, I should say, their houses, (for many of them have very comfortable log dwellings,) I have been surprised at the quantity of grain and vegetables I have seen laid up for winter.

The resident teacher and missionary is very kind to them, visiting them in their sickness, counselling them in their difficulties, and exerting himself much to promote their best temporal as well as spiritual interests. The assistant teacher and interpreter is not backward in carrying out the instructions he receives from those whose duty it is to direct him.

The deaths during the past year have been *nine*, viz: *six* adults and *three* children.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

F. H. CUMMING,

Superintendent by the appointment of Rt. Rev. Samuel A. McKoskry, D. D., of the colony of the Ottowa Indians at the Griswold mission, Michigan.

To the Hon. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 27.

Grand Traverse, *September* 16, 1847.

I have just returned to the station after an absence of three months. I left the station to attend to the publication of some translations I have been making for the use of the school and people. The school has been kept in regular operation during the past year, with the usual vacations. The average attendance has been about 30. I herewith send a roll of the names of those children who have attended school, with their age and their state of improvement. A portion of the people are from year to year making advances in the knowledge and arts of civilized life. They deserve commendation and encouragement.

There are some individuals who appear determined to defy all effort to prevent intemperance among them. They have taken special pains to go and get liquor, and bring it here and sell it. The report of Mr. Campbell will, I presume, make you acquainted with the principal facts respecting this matter.

Several things are producing the conviction on my mind that the time has come when the interests of these people will be promoted by deciding definitely the question of their future location, by securing to them the lands they now occupy by sale or otherwise, or fixing them on some other permanent home, while they have some means of aid from their annuities. The following reasons have induced this opinion.

1. They are unwilling to make much further effort at improvement in buildings while they have no assurance of remaining to enjoy them.

2. The time has about come when they should be spreading out on their lands, with more room for raising domestic animals than they can have clustered together in a small village.

3. Becoming uneasy lest they may have to leave here, they are beginning to make purchases, here and there, at distant points, which will scatter them into such small bands that it will be almost impossible to collect them into schools and meetings for improvement.

But little further advantage, I apprehend, can be secured to them by lengthening the time of a temporary reservation; and the government would probably not lose any thing by giving them the opportunity of purchasing together on their present location, as the question appears to be settled that individuals may purchase places of their own choice.

Yours, very respectfully,

P. DOUGHERTY.

Wm. A. Richmond, Esq.

No. 28.

OLD WING, *August* 31, 1847.

DEAR SIR: The time has again come when I suppose it is necessary, as in years past, to send you my annual report. Last fall was a time of much and severe sickness in our colony, as in all the settlements in this region. There were a considerable number of deaths among our Indians, principally women and infant children. For a time our prospects were gloomy, but hope revived on the setting in of winter; and this season, up to the time the Indians left, their health was very good, and they seemed to have forgotten that they were once sick; and I here repeat, what I have before said, that our location is, in my opinion, decidedly healthy; there is nothing in the colony, or near it, that looks unhealthy, and I have not had a case of fever in my family since we came here.

I commenced the school last fall as soon after the payment as I could collect the scholars, and continued it till late in March, when they became so much engaged in sugaring that the children could not attend; and the progress of the scholars was decidedly good. The list was not as great as last year, but the general attendance, I think, was about the same. The following is the list:

Of Indian scholars—males 12, females 11	23
White scholars—males 3, females 2..........................	5
Whole number	28

The progress of the scholars was better than last year; the course of instruction the same, except advancing; several have learned to write a fair hand who never made a letter before; several who began the winter with the alphabet, (small children,) read and spell in readings of one or two syllables; others older (from 7 to ten years) read better: others (10 to 14) read quite well in Scripture lessons by spelling out some of the hardest words. The whole school has been taught in general questions of arithmetic, geography, and astronomy, also in daily exercises of church music. All the instructions of the school are in English, but the scholars are very diffident about speaking it when out of school.

Our meetings on the Sabbath have been kept up, with few exceptions, until the Indians left a short time since on account of the small-pox in the Dutch colony near us. This colony now numbers about 1,500; what its influence will be on our mission the future must determine; we hope it may be good eventually, but the Indians were not prepared to defend their fields against the large numbers of cattle and hogs the Dutch are bringing in, especially as they have to be absent, and cannot watch them. Considerable damage is already done, but the farmer is making vigorous efforts to secure them.

Since the 1st of last October, I have employed no interpreter, but have conducted religious worship, schools, &c., in the Indian language myself, and have so far succeeded as to be understood,

and I hope it has been profitable to the Indians. If I had a faithful interpreter and a good man combined, I should think it a great object; but as I cannot find such a one, I shall do the best I can myself. The great obstacle in our way, as in years past, is that the Indians go to the lake shore to spend the summer, away from the school and their farms; if this one evil could be remedied, (and I hope we shall finally overcome it,) we should have fair prospects of success; as it is, our advance is encouraging, especially as respects civilization, intelligence, and in comfortable and permanent means of support.

I remain, dear sir, your humble and obedient servant,

GEORGE N. SMITH.

Wm. A. Richmond, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 29.

Detroit, *September* 30, 1847.

Sir: Having already forwarded a report to the Indian Department, in answer to a circular dated July 20th, 1847, I have the honor herewith to transmit for your consideration a tabular report of the Indian schools connected with the Catholic missions under my care, together with a list containing the names, age, and sex of the scholars of some of our schools, who have attended school any portion of the year.

I take pleasure in stating that the proficiency of the scholars has in general been satisfactory and encouraging for the time they have attended school, and in particular those of Macinac Point, St. Ignase, and Ance Kewewenon. The improvement of the scholars of Arbre Croche, Middletown, and St. Croix, is not so satisfactory, in consequence of irregularity in attending schools, caused by long and frequent absence of families from home pursuing their various avocations, and particularly during a considerable part of last winter and spring on account of the small-pox, which began to prevail amongst them in the very worst form, and seemed to threaten their several bands with extermination, which I believe would inevitably have been their fate but for the great and charitable exertions of their clergymen, Reverend Messrs. Pierz, Meak, and Piret, who innoculated about one thousand of these Indians, affording them at the same time all the care and attention that was in their power to bestow; and thus succeeded in averting this dreadful calamity.

I am also happy to say, that in general there is a continued improvement in industry, morality, and religion, among our Catholic Indians, and that their number has this year been increased by about two hundred converts to the Catholic faith. But still it must be confessed that the improvement of many is but gradual, and much slower than would gratify the philanthropic desires of those who are endeavoring to aid them and devote themselves entirely to their good. This is explained chiefly by the absence of motive

to personal effort, resulting from the insecurity of property, and the very uncertain and unsettled condition in which they live. They are naturally of a wandering disposition, and love to make their living by hunting, being much encouraged thereto by traders. Their inclination for wandering and seeking their existence by the chase rather than by agricultural pursuits, is much strengthened and increased by the thought that they cannot be allowed the right of citizenship, to purchase land in their own name, and permanently settle on it. This thought continually preys upon their minds, and creates a certain indifference, and even distaste for any improvement of the mind or habits. They despair of ever obtaining a permanent location for themselves and their posterity, where they shall not be importuned to emigrate and give place to the white man. Hence national as well as individual motives to exertion are wanting, and the chief care with many is to supply present wants and enjoy the gratification of the day, unconcerned about the consequences of to-morrow. Hence also, it is, that the ties of love and affection which unites them to their children, being naturally very strong, they are not willing to be long deprived of their presence, and thus, withersoever the parents wander the children must wander with them. Were it not for the influence of our religion, which conscientiously obliges them to care for the education of their children, we could hardly get them to send their children to school at any time. Could these hindrances be removed, or could these Indians obtain a full assurance from the part of government that they may validly purchase the lands which they may choose to improve and settle upon, without fear of being compelled to abandon it, without doubt they would feel much encouraged to unite themselves into large bands, which would form so many permanent settlements or flourishing villages, where, under the benign and vigorous influence of our holy religion, the establishment of settled habits of industry, sober occupation, and useful knowledge would become objects of deep interest to them; while the thrift in agriculture, mechanic arts, and other branches of domestic economy, would ensure to them all the necessaries and comforts of life.

Please accept the assurance of my high consideration of respect, with which I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

PETER P. LEFEVRE, *Bp. & C. A. D.*

WILLIAM A. RICHMOND, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 30.

OTTOWA COLONY, *September* 30, 1847.

SIR: I herewith transmit my report for the year ending this day.

The fond hopes entertained previous to the time of my last report of giving new life and energy to the cause of education generally among the Ottowas, has not been realized as was anticipated by us. We commenced, as reported in my last, giving instruction

to young and old on the new system with good success; created a taste for knowledge to all those who were favored with instruction, and should have realized all that we anticipated could we have received a supply of books adapted to the several capacities of our pupils. We made application to the press west of the Mississippi for books, but from a want of a direct communication they have not arrived, though forwarded some time since.

We have endeavored to keep in operation the school at all times when the Indians were present to send their children. For want of books in the Ottowa tongue we are obliged to resume the instruction in English studies with but little success, as the natives generally preferred reading in their own language. There has been from ten to fifteen in English, while we have had twenty-five to thirty in the Indian language. Many can already read the New Testament in their native language.

To excite an interest on the subject of education generally among the Ottowas and Chippewas, it is necessary that the new system of instruction should be adopted by the several mission stations within your superintendency. By referring to the reports made by agents and missionaries among the Cherokees, you will at once see why an advance of fifty years was made in their condition as a people, when a printing press was established, and a weekly paper issued, adopting the syllabic plan of instruction. It is hoped every evangelical missionary station will adopt the new method, and co-operate in advancing this important step to civilization and happiness among the Ottowas and Chippewas.

Since the date of my last report we have sustained the loss of many adults and children by the stroke of death. Among those who have died was Noon-day, the chief. He was an intelligent and useful man in his tribe. This colony, and the church connected with it, feel that their loss is irreparable. He was a friend to the white man, and had adopted his habits and religion. He was considered by his people, and no less by his white neighbors, as a man of judgment, integrity, and of great worth.

Agricultural interest. The Indians have become more satisfied that to depend on hunting and fishing for a livelihood is too precarious for their interest and happiness. To advance their farming interest they have stipulated to appropriate two hundred dollars to purchase more land. Many families have sown wheat this fall for the first time. They have cleared rising twenty acres of new land and broke up seven acres of it, in addition to their former improvements. They have raised their usual quantity of corn, beans, squashes, and pumpkins; but few potatoes were raised, fearful of a continued rot.

They manifest an increased interest in agriculture to promote which they have had repeated councils, and have come to the conclusion that their future farmer, furnished them by the United States government, should be one of their own people, instead of a white man. The two stations, viz: Griswold and Ottowa, recommend Nebeneksee as their future farmer, and asks, by the accompanying document, his appointment. The present farmer resigns

with the understanding that the Indian should succeed him. This colony, with the other established in the vicinity, suffers for the want of a smith to repair their tools. The present smith furnished by government for them is located at such a distance that little or no benefit is received from the shop.

Moral and spiritual state. Since the death of the chief, who was the spiritual father to the colony, and the recent death of other members of the church, there has been a defect in morals. There have been many who have given themselves to beastly intoxication. The state of things at times has been very discouraging; while some have thus disgraced themselves and families, there are others who have been steadfast and unmoved by the surrounding influences; this alone has encouraged me to continue to use exertions to meliorate their condition. One important cause for this state of things may be a competition for chieftainship. The present chief was elected by ballot; one of the unsuccessful candidates took offence, and he, with his friends, have endeavored by the use of liquor to bring contempt upon the administration of his rival.

We continue to sustain our meetings on Lord's day, and on week days, with apparent interest and success.

With great respect, I am, dear sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

L. SLATER,
Superintendent Ottowa School.

William A. Richmond, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Detroit.

No. 31.

Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan,
September 1, 1847.

Sir: I embrace the present opportunity of making you acquainted with the present condition of the missions under my charge, which I will endeavor to do as briefly as the nature of the case will admit.

Sault Ste. Marie.—At this station I think the people continue to improve their condition. They have planted more ground than formerly, and the crops never looked more promising than at present. As a further evidence of general improvement, I would add, that when I first came here the mission owned but one single cow, and the Indians not one; now the mission have seven head of cattle, and individual Indians have fifteen head, which they provide for and keep well. The premises have been considerably enlarged and much improved during the past year. The school, I think, has been doing as well, and the attendance perhaps more regular, than in any former year. The whole number in school has been 38, average number about 24.

Kewawenon.—At this place, also, I think there has been a steady improvement in the condition of the people in almost every respect. Some of the families live every way as well, even better, than many

white families, especially in the newly settled part of the country. They are building a neat and commodious church, which is expected to be fit for use before winter. The school has been regularly taught, and, I believe, with a good degree of success. Their fields are being enlarged every year, and their stock of cattle is regularly increasing in numbers.

Fon-du-Lac.—Though the Indians of this part of the country are yet in rather a wild state, they are evidently beginning to improve their condition, and there has been a very considerable change for the better during the past year. Their fields have been enlarged—the school has been much better attended than formerly—and a respectable number begin to listen with attention to the preaching of the gospel.

Sandy Lake.—I visited this station for the first time a few weeks since. Considering the amount of missionary labor here bestowed, I think the prospect of doing good is quite encouraging. The crops looked remarkably well. The school is regularly taught, though the missionary finds it somewhat difficult to make them realize the advantages of having their children educated, so as to keep them constantly in school. The Sabbath I spent with them, there was a respectable number of persons who listened to the preaching of the gospel, and some individuals, I believe, are devotedly pious. There is in the missionary department, every where, difficulties and discouragements to be met with, but these we believe will all give way before Christian patience and manly perseverance; and if we may judge of the future by the past, we trust that the missionaries of this board will not be second to any in their efforts to improve the condition of this people, physically, mentally, and morally.

Respectfully submitted.

W. H. BROCKWAY,
Superintendent of Missions.

JAMES ORD, Esq.,
Indian Sub-agent.

No. 32.

BAPTIST MISSION HOUSE,
Sault Ste. Marie, Sept. 30, 1847.

SIR: In compliance with the requirement of the Department, I forward to you the 19th annual report of the mission under my care and superintendence.

The laborers connected with this mission are, myself, Mrs. B., Rev. J. D. Cameron, Sheguel, a native assistant, and Miss Adeline Culver, assistant school teacher.

Our school has been continued through the year without interruption, although, in consequence of ill health of teachers, several changes have been made, or different persons have been employed.

The pupils enrolled on our catalogue for the several quarters during the year, have numbered from 27 to 53. The first quarter

after my last report we had but 27, owing to the fact that there were two other schools opened in the neighborhood within 100 rods of ours; these reduced ours to that number for the first quarter, but the 2d we had 44, the 3d we had 53, and the 4th, 35.

Arithmetic, geography, English grammar, and philosophy, are taught in connexion with the minor branches usually taught in common schools.

Owing to the frequent changes of our teachers the past year, possibly our scholars may not have made all that progress they would have done under one steady and competent teacher, but we think their progress has been tolerably good, and that at the present they are doing quite well.

Eight boarding scholars have been supported at the expense of the mission the most part of the year. But a few weeks since three left, which leaves our present number but five. They are from 10 to 13 years of age, and all except one, are studying arithmetic and geography, and several of them, with others, write compositions. We also maintain a Sabbath school at the station in which the boarding scholars are instructed in the general knowledge of the scriptures, committing portions of them to memory, in common with other Sunday school scholars from the town. During the past year, I have also opened a Sabbath school among the Indians, when I have visited them at their locations; calling the youth and children together, I have instructed them between the services on the Sabbath, and have had the happiness of seeing them much interested in it. Also, when they have visited our place, I have pursued the same course, and have been much gratified with their good attention and apparent desire to learn. I have had 20, or rising, together on such an occasion, but probably from 13 to 15 would be a fair representation of our number. These do not include our boarding scholars at the station.

I have also travelled some 300 miles, or rising, in visiting the Indians at their different encampments to preach the gospel to them, and when not absent on those missionary tours, maintain regular Christian worship at home.

We have 34 Indian and half-blood church members connected with our mission—17 males and 17 females. One half-blood ordained minister, and one full-blood native assistant, who maintains religious worship with his clan in the absence of an ordained minister.

Our Indians are advancing in civilization and in business habits. They have enlarged their improvements the past year, and improved them with good rail fences. The amount of land they have under improvements I am not now able to give. I have failed of getting the amount of produce raised by them in general. I have only taken it from four families. These four, have raised the past year 182 bushels of potatoes, a small amount of corn, pumpkins, turnips, and other vegetables; have made about a ton and a half of maple sugar; and four young men belonging to them and specially connected with the mission, have entered, with a good deal of perseverance, into the fishing business. The present season they have

caught and brought to this place and sold 142 barrels of fish; and last fall, between the time of my report and the closing of navigation, they brought to our market 43, which, during the year, amounts to 185 barrels. They are now preparing for their fall fishing.

In relation to temperance movements I may add, I have 53 native signatures to my temperance pledge, whom I think design to maintain the warfare on which they have entered. I have a large number more who signed the pledge for a limited time, many of whom may not be inclined to renew their pledge; and yet it is possible that most of them may.

May the Lord not only dispose them to renew their pledge, but also to abandon forever the use of alcohol.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BINGHAM,
Sup. Baptist Mission.

JAMES ORD, Esq.
Sub-agent, Indian Department.

No. 33.

LA POINTE, *September* 14, 1847.

SIR: In presenting a report of our operations at this station during the past year, I have to note no important changes in the course pursued by us from that given in former reports. We have continued our labors as usual, endeavoring to instruct all who were willing to receive instruction from us, in the duties and doctrines of the Christian religion, and in letters.

In August of last year, Mr. E. F. Ely, who was formerly a teacher in the school at Pokegama, removed with his family to this place. In October, he commenced his labors as teacher in the school. At that time the two schools, which had for several years been taught separately, and kept in different parts of the village, were united, and have been taught through the year by Mr. Ely and Miss Abby Spooner, conjointly. This arrangement, however, is thought not to be the best, and they are now again separated, and will be taught separately hereafter.

The school, during the year, has numbered 65 different scholars, 43 males, and 22 females. It has been kept in operation regularly during the year, except the usual vacations.

Early in the winter several of the scholars were taken out of the school, to attend a course of instruction from the Rev. Mr. Scolla, Catholic priest at this place, and but few of them have yet returned. The proficiency of the scholars who have been regular attendants, is very satisfactory. The branches taught have been spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, and composition. The scholars are taught in the Ojibwa and English languages. The schools are open and free to all who choose to avail themselves of their privileges, no charge being made for books or other expenses.

During the past year the Ojibwa and English spelling book,

mentioned in my last report as being nearly ready for use, has been introduced into the schools, and used, it is believed, with good effect.

I am, sir, with much respect, yours, &c.,

S. HALL,

Superintendent of the schools of the A. B. C. F. M., at La Pointe.

JAMES P. HAYS, Esq., *Sub-agent.*

No. 34.

BAD RIVER, *September* 9, 1847.

DEAR SIR: In presenting you a report of our operations, &c., at this station, during the past year, we remark that nothing has transpired in the history of this people, or of our labors among them, which makes it necessary for me to say anything essentially different from what was contained in our report of last year. The Indians, as a body, have been here rather more of the time than they were last year. They have enlarged somewhat the size of their gardens, and give some indications of an increased desire to adopt a settled mode of life. This desire has been gaining strength, we think, for several years, and must almost of necessity increase in proportion as the people turn their attention to the cultivation of the soil. The rewards of industry in this line are so much more certain, and purchase for them so many more of the comforts of life, than a precarious dependence upon fishing and hunting, that they already begin to see and feel the difference. The cultivation of the soil also compels them to labor, and, in a measure, obliges them to be more fixed in their place of residence, and thus has a tendency to break up their roving, indolent habits. Six years ago, when I first came into this country, the people raised from the cultivation of the soil not more than one-third of what they will probably realize this year from their gardens. They did not raise potatoes enough for their own use, besides being dependent upon the mission for seed to plant; and of corn they raised still less, nearly the whole of which was consumed on the ground where it was gathered. When they went to their sugar camps in the spring, they purchased on credit of the traders nearly all the provisions they had to take with them. When they left the sugar camps, it took nearly all the sugar they made to pay their credits, and they returned again hungry to their gardens. Last year they had corn all winter; took but little credit when they went to their sugar camps; had corn and potatoes to eat and to plant when they returned to their planting grounds, and had also most of their sugar to consume themselves, and to sell to purchase articles of clothing, &c., for their families.

We are sorry to say that the desire of the people for schools and religious instruction is not as great as it is for improvement in other respects. We have kept a school during the past year three

months, which is all the time the Indians have been here in a body. The payment was so late last year that the people remained here but little over a month, before they left to make their fall fishing; and while they are in their sugar camps, though near by, it is impracticable to attempt to sustain a school among them. We have had in our school more than fifty different scholars, but the average attendance has not been more than ten or twelve. Our meetings have been attended more regularly, by those who have attended scarcely any at all, than they were last year; but the number has been small, not averaging more than twenty who speak the Indian language. We have now all the buildings erected necessary for our present operations: consisting of a comfortable dwelling-house, school-house, barn, and wood-house. We have five head of cattle, some fifty acres of land fenced for a pasture, a meadow near by, which furnishes us with what hay we need. We cultivate some four acres of land, chiefly devoted to potatoes, corn, and oats, and have in addition a small garden.

We are in a condition now to prosecute our labors here more vigorously than we were last year. And if the people are kept as free from liquor as they have been heretofore, and can be encouraged to improve their condition without being harrassed with constant fears of a removal, we shall feel more encouraged to continue our labors among them than at any former period.

I am, sir, respectfully, yours, &c.,

L. H. WHEELER.

To JAMES P. HAYS, *Sub-agent at La Pointe.*

No. 35.

First report of the mission school at Kapoja—usually called among the white men Little Crow's village—for nine months ending August 31, 1847. *The mission family at this station consisted of Thos. S. Williamson, A. M., M. D., minister and superintendent of the school, Mrs. Margaret Williamson and five children, and Miss Jane S. Williamson, teacher.*

NEAR FORT SNELLING, *September* 7, 1847.

We arrived here on November 20, 1846, and on the first Monday in November, Miss Williamson opened school, and has taught regularly from that time to the present, except when the Indians have all been absent for a week or two, which has occurred two or three times. For twenty-one weeks she was assisted by Miss Margaret Renville, who was educated in the mission school at Lacqueparle, and for a short time the superintendent attended to teaching the men and larger boys.

For full half the time embraced in this report, owing to sickness of the Indians, or to most of them being absent from the village, the school has been very small, not averaging more than two or three scholars per day, exclusive of our own children and one or two that we have boarded; but, whenever any have come willingly

to learn, they have been attended to, though they have come one at a time and unseasonably. In this way, not less time and labor have been devoted to our school, scarcely averaging nine scholars, exclusive of four of our own, than are commonly given to a school of thirty, when they are punctual in their attendance. We have, also, suffered much inconvenience from want of a proper school-house, being compelled to teach in our sitting room, where we are interrupted by visiting and the noise of our own children. Had we been provided with a good school-house, distinct from our dwelling, as we hoped to be, it is not improbable the average number of scholars might have been nearly double what it has been, and their progress in like proportion. Most of the Dakotas, who reside here, are still strongly attached to the religion of their ancestors, and have no wish to hear God's word, and little disposition to learn, or have their children taught to read. There is a great difference in this respect between those who have always resided in this neighborhood and those who have resided for a time near the mission at Lacqueparle. The average attendance of natives on our public worship on the Sabbath, has been twelve or thirteen—most of whom have resided at Lacqueparle. All the scholars in the first and second class, and most of those in the third, have resided more or less in the same neighborhood, and most of them have attended school there. The accompanying table will show the names, number, and progress, of the school here, so far as an account has been kept of it; the figures to the right hand of the names show the days of attendance, but in many cases not fully; for, owing to the difficulty of getting the name properly, or some other cause, it has often happened that individuals have attended school a number of days before their names are taken down. The ages of the scholars are from six years to upwards of forty. More than half are between ten and twenty.

Counting sixty days for a quarter, the average attendance would be for the first quarter.............................. $7\frac{1}{2}$ scholars.
Second do .. .. 8 do.
Third do .... $10\frac{3}{4}$ do.

Experience has convinced us that the Dakotas, living among their relations, are not likely to learn English enough to be much benefitted by it; on which account we have labored chiefly to instruct them in their own language, not neglecting at the same time to teach English to any who manifest a disposition to learn it. Four can read it with more or less fluency, and converse in it a little; others have made less progress.

In conclusion, it gives me much pleasure to say that, through your influence, and that of Capt. Eastman, Mr. Sibley, and others, the Indians of this village use much less intoxicating drink than formerly, and that even those of them who evinced no disposition to avail themselves of any instruction have treated us kindly, and appear to confide in us as friends.

Your obedient servant,

THOS. S. WILLIAMSON.

To Col. Amos J. Bruce.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number that read and write legibly.......	3	4	7
Do read, but do not write.......	5	12	17
Do of spellers....................	9	11	20
Do learning alphabet.............	2	7	9
	19	34	53
Baptized............................	8	13	21

No. 36.

TRAVERSE DES SIOUX, *April*, 1847.

DEAR SIR: The following is the report of the school at Traverse des Sioux, under the care of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. The males are taught by Mr. Alexander G. Huggins; the females by Mrs. Huggins, in sewing in knitting:

Our school commenced the 15th of December, 1846, and continued until the 12th of March; when the people left for their sugar-camps. We consider all those scholars who attended school as many as four days. By this rule, their number is 25. The aggregate of their attendence is 320 days; so that the aggregate attendance of each scholar falls a little short of 15 days. Much of the time embraced in this report, very few were near enough to school; but if they had been generally impressed with the utility of education, they would have been much more regular in attendance, as well as more assidious in improvement. Several men have come to school a few times with a determination (as they said and we believed) to learn to read—thinking thereby to equal their white neighbors in the means of information; but the ridicule of their people soon overcame them. I have been delighted to observe in a few Dakota men a high sense of the value of intelligence, and of the knowledge of books as a means thereof. But who can transgress hoary customs, withstand the frowns of friends, and disregard the ridicule of ingenious satirists? After their morning recitations, Mrs. Huggins instructed the girls in the use of the needle. Three made themselves two pillow-slips apiece of calico patchwork, and four made one apiece. They are very fond of this business, and would gladly occupy all their school time in it, if their instructors would permit. Mrs. Huggins offered to teach all to knit who wished to learn; but few were disposed to learn. One young woman knit a good pair of double mittens, and commenced a pair of stockings, which she would probably have finished if she could have remained here a sufficient time. Three others commenced stockings, but did not finish them. Knitting requires more patience than Dakotas like to exercise.

Only two of our scholars read the Bible intelligibly, and they received most of their instruction at Laqueparle. Six others (three boys and three girls) may perhaps be said to read a little. If they could be regularly instructed, in a short time they would

be good readers. Of the rest, some spell in two syllables, some in one, and some have not well learned the alphabet. One young man learned to read pretty well while Mr. Riggs was here, but he has not recently given much attention to it.

It may be proper to add, that a considerable number of children have received instruction in times past who were not in this neighborhood the last winter.

Yours, &c.,

R. HOPKINS.

To Colonel BRUCE, *Indian Agent*, *St. Peters*.

No. 37.

LAQUEPARLE MISSION, *June* 15, 1847.

DEAR SIR: I have now the honor to submit to you the following, which is the twelfth annual report of the Laqueparle Station, under the direction of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. Laborers—S. R. Riggs, A. M., missionary, and Mrs. Riggs; Jonas Pettijohn, farmer, and Mrs. Pettijohn, female teacher.

Since my transfer to this place, (the 1st of October last,) we have reported school for two quarters; neither of them, however, quite full, owing to the absence of the Indians for a short time in the winter. The whole number taught has been 74, viz: 42 males and 32 females; but the average attendance was only 22. Teaching a-b-c's, spelling, reading, and writing on slates, occupied most of the time. A few spent some time at arithmetic. An Indian young man assisted us in teaching about six weeks, for which we paid him $10. During the winter, Mr. and Mrs. Pettijohn had two girls boarding in their family; at present they have three. But little was done by the women in knitting, &c., owing to the appearance of the buffalo early in the season. We had anticipated scarcity this spring, but the great abundance of fresh meat furnished by this noble animal has preserved their corn; so that there is still much more than the ordinary quantity on hand at this time of the year.

The usual amount of land has been planted in corn this spring. Some have ploughed with their own horses, and without any assistance from white men, their old fields, and some have even made new ones. Others have received some assistance in ploughing from those engaged in the fur trade and the mission. The plough which was furnished them by your kindness, some eight years since, is now worn out. They are in need of a new plough or two, and some collars, harness, and chains, with a few dozen hoes. A few dollars spent in this way will, I am persuaded, do them more lasting good than if expended in any other way. They will beg and receive, and be beggars still; but the more they can be brought to depend upon their own exertions, and the sooner they can be brought to feel that a comfortable independence can be obtained by their own industry, the better. Rendering them assistance in

this direction—helping them to keep themselves—we feel to be vastly important.

But holding, as we do, the gospel of Christ as the civilizer of nations, that its truths, heard and obeyed, fit men for living here and hereafter too, we make it our chief business to declare unto them the whole counsel of God. "Line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little," is, so far as we have yet been able to discover, our only practicable line of operations. As has been remarked of the inhabitants of Paraguay, that, contrary to the declaration of the Apostle Paul, that "faith cometh by hearing," in their case it seemed to enter only through the mouth; so we have found it to be too true of the Dakotas. Still, our hope is in God, "who raiseth up the dead and quickeneth whom he will," that He will even here make manifest the great power of the gospel in the salvation of many. There are at present connected with this church twelve native members, two of whom reside at Big Stone Lake.

In closing this report, I would respectfully call your attention, and through you the attention of our government, to one thing which appears to me to operate unfavorably to the civilization of this people. I refer to the unequal bearing of the laws upon different classes of persons who live in this country.

A white man, half-breed, or Indian, who dresses like a white man, is, by the construction of the law, liable to be punished by fine, imprisonment, and banishment, for taking ardent spirits into the Indian country for the purpose of traffic; but an Indian or half-breed who wears the Indian dress may buy, sell, and use ardent spirits without there being *ordinarily* any cognizance taken of the fact. The whiskey destroyed by the efforts of yourself and the commanding officer at Fort Snelling forms the glorious exception, and not the rule. Again, a white man, half-breed, or Indian, who dresses like a white man, subjects himself to a fine if he attempts to carry on a trade in furs without a regular license from the agent; while an Indian or half-breed who wears Indian clothes may carry on such a trade, buying furs with whiskey, or whatever he may have, without any cognizance being taken of the fact. This inequality of the bearings of the law on one who dresses as a savage and one who tries to conform to the habits and customs of civilized men, operates in favor of leggings, breech-cloth, and blanket. Some years ago, five young Indians at this place wore pantaloons; but they have all returned to the Indian dress. There they find less restraint. On this account we would urge the propriety of bringing *all* under the restraints, and making *all* liable to the penalties of the law. By this means some of the difficulties now felt in executing the laws on a certain class would be done away; and the *bonus* which now *seems* to be held out to those who continue in the savage state would be withdrawn.

Yours, truly,

STEPHEN R. RIGGS.

Colonel A. J. Bruce,
Indian Agent, St. Peters.

No. 38.

TRAVERSE DES SIOUX, *July*, 1847.

DEAR SIR: Since writing the report of our school, left at your office in May last, we have witnessed some new interest among the Dakotas of this neighborhood in raising corn, and particularly in using their own horses and the ploughs you gave them two years ago for that purpose.

Within the four years this station has been occupied, we have frequently met with discouraging incidents; occasionally, with cause of encouragement. Among the obstacles to their civilization, the jealousy they feel towards every thing that originates among civilized men is prominent. There is among them a strong impression that they are an entirely different kind of beings from white men, and that they are in duty bound to adhere to the usages of their ancestors. Hence, some of their wise men informed them that those who learn to read, plough, and so on, can never be good hunters, nor can they ever attain to the knowledge and habits of civilized men, but they will be outcasts from society and must soon perish.

This superstition (which seems to be general among Dakotas) operates strongly against success in teaching them to use the plough, and might have entirely prevented it for a long time, had not stern hunger, joined with common sense, pressed them into the measure.

We have made a great many attempts to induce them to employ their own horses in ploughing their fields, but until this spring they would neither use them themselves nor allow us to do so. Last year one family even went so far as to prohibit us from ploughing their field with our own team, supposing that ploughing would increase the labor of cultivation without improving the crop. This was a rare case. Most of those who plant have been pleased to receive this kind of assistance, but very few have ever tried to hold the plough. The reason of their unwillingness may be partly indolence, partly prejudice, and partly a persuasion that they cannot succeed.

Last spring soon after the people returned from their sugar-camps, they asked us to help them make their fields. We answered that we would endeavor to plough with our oxen as many new fields as they desired; but, that if their old fields were to be ploughed, they must put their own horses and hands to the work, and we would help them.

After the new fields were finished they plead earnestly to have the oxen work on the old ones, but, as we were firm, they could not succeed. At length the chief (Mazaxa) came and asked us to help him put his mule to work in connexion with a horse belonging to the station. We consented and succeeded well. The others looked on and saw as much ground prepared for the seed in an hour with the plough as they could dig in days with the hoe. They surveyed their intended fields, (and their persons spoke of their empty larders, and examined their poor hoes,) then turned their eyes to the plough

moving steadily and briskly through the earth. The contrast was too great to be unnoticed. They saw now for the first time an Indian man assisting to plough with his own donkey. That which had for three years been to them a matter of speculation, or positive unbelief, became, in the fourth, practical experience. Their doubts and scruples were now overcome, and one of us was kept busy until all the fields in this village were ploughed.

The two neighboring villages soon heard of the results of the movement, and made haste to adopt the plan, which we were glad to assist them to carry out; but before the ploughing spirit was generally diffused, two or three families had almost finished their planting. For these and a widow who had no horse, no ploughing was done.

The whole number of families planting here this year, is twenty-four; last year, eighteen families planted.

We think it would encourage and materially aid this people in learning to cultivate the earth, if you could furnish them with about two dozen of good hoes.

Please accept our thanks for the influence we find you exerting upon the Indians among whom we live in favor of schools and civilization.

Yours, &c.,

ROBERT HOPKINS.
ALEX. G. HUGGINS.

Colonel A. J. Bruce,
Indian Agent.

No. 39.

Delaware Baptist Mission House,
September 4, 1847.

Dear Sir: In presenting my annual report of the school at this station you will allow me to remark, that the other departments of our labor are still kept in operation, affording, too, some little evidence that our efforts are not entirely lost. Discouraging as is the work in which we are engaged, I am aware that we may seize with too much avidity upon omens that may seem to augur good, and speak too sanguinely of that which is but hope within us. And on the other hand we find a liability to magnify upon the influences that are retarding our prospects.

It is difficult for me to satisfy myself with a few passing remarks on the state of general improvement among the Delawares, but my present design will admit of nothing more. With a portion of them there is evidently an advance; a part of those who have declared in favor of education and Christianity are making progress that reflects honor upon their professions, while others are doing less, and others still doing nothing. Those who are clinging to the "way of their fathers," to say the best of them, are but on a stand; and others of them are making fearful strides in the vices of low white

men. Horse-racing, gambling, intemperance, profanity and Sabbath-breaking are taught by precept and example in the army movements among us. It is already esteemed a mark of greatness to be able to curse and swear, and deride religion and morality "like a white man."

The number of Delaware children in our school is 23; the whole number taught by us in the year is 28; which, together with 5 white children, makes our entire number 33. My remark in my last report to you, in regard to improvement of our people, accords still with my observations, viz: that the first steps in education are taken with about the same facility as in schools of white children, but farther practical education moves much more tardily. I am still of the opinion that our school is better adapted to the wants of those for whom we labor by its being conducted more like a private family than a common school.

I am, in haste, very respectfully, yours,

J. D. BLANCHARD,

Sup't Delaware Baptist Mission School.

Major R. W. CUMMINS,

U. S. Indian Agent, Fort Leavenworth Agency.

No. 40.

SHAWNEE BAPTIST MISSION,

August 18, 1847.

SIR: The following is submitted as a summary report of the operations of this mission station the past year, under the patronage of the A. B. M. U., whose executive committee is located at Boston, Massachusetts:

Preaching has been regularly sustained on Sabbath days at the station, and among the Indians in different neighborhoods during the week. Eight have been added to the church, four have been excluded; present number of members, twenty-five. These include such only as have hopefully been converted from heathenism, and, in general, manifest a laudable interest in embracing the habits of civilized life.

In the Sabbath school twenty scholars have repeated lessons from the Bible, scripture questions, hymns, &c. This effort commends itself as a delightful and profitable way of spending the leisure hours of the day of rest, counteracting on the part of the pupils the disposition to wander abroad, and deepening in the hearts of the teachers an interest in their present and future good.

Our English boarding school has averaged fifteen scholars; one of these is about four years of age, the others ranging from eight to sixteen; these are learning to read and write the English language. Some have advanced to a desirable knowledge of geography, and have some knowledge of arithmetic and English grammar. While small, and in the rudiments of education, these scholars are usually contented and happy; becoming larger, they grow uneasy

through a desire to be earning something. It is to be regretted that this desire is encouraged by the parents. The adult population are gradually learning to read our translations in their own language. Four laborers have been regularly employed; two in secular and domestic cares, and two in imparting religious knowledge, and instruction in letters. It sometimes appears as though enlightened views of missionary labor were destined to prevail. The great amount of drinking which at one time prevailed appears to have been occasioned, in part, by the influence of soldiers and wagoners connected with the Mexican war.

The suffering from sickness has been less than in the years preceding the present. No very fatal disease at any one time prevailing, yet we are constantly called upon to administer to the sick. A supply of medicine from the government would be of essential service, as many who desire to use it are unable to pay for their medicine.

Very respectfully submitted,

FRANCIS BARKER,
Superintendent of Mission School.

Major R. W. Cummins,
U. S. Agent, Fort Leavenworth Agency.

No. 41.

Otto and Omaha Mission, *September* 16, 1847.

Dear Sir: The following statement is made in order to enable you to inform the Indian Department of the condition and prospects of the mission established at this place by the Presbyterian board of foreign missions, and now under my care.

The mission family arrived here on the 2d September, 1846. A small log house was immediately commenced, and finished in about six weeks, sufficient for our accommodation during the winter. Until about the 1st of April last, nothing of great importance could be done for the good of the Indians. Every effort, however, was made, by frequent visits to their villages, to ascertain their true character, and their feelings in relation to the introduction of Christianity and its attendant blessings. To some considerable extent the gospel was preached among them; and whenever opportunity was afforded it was gladly embraced for this purpose, whether in public or in private.

About the date last mentioned, directions were received from the board to put in a crop sufficient for the subsistence of the family, and to afford provision for such children as might be taken into our contemplated boarding school. In the latter part of May, the secretary of the board visited the station, and fixed upon a plan for the school. The labor of procuring timber was commenced in the beginning of July, and finished in the second week in August. Most of the materials are now on the ground, and it is hoped that in ten days' time from the present date the building will be raised.

The building will be a substantial log house, two stories high. It will be 64 by 28 feet in front, with two side wings; one of which will be 30 by 18, and the other 30 by 22. It is calculated this house will afford accommodations for the mission family, with proper assistants, and forty Indian children. The intention is, that these children shall be equally divided between the two sexes; and that thirty of them shall be Omahas, and ten Ottoes. In case the Ottoes accede to the proposal made to them in relation to their school fund, twenty Ottoe children will be taken, and the proportion between the two tribes altered accordingly, until greater accommodations can be provided for them.

The principal reliance of this mission for support, at present, is upon the sum of $900 per annum, pledged for the education of Omaha children, by some benevolent ladies of the city of New York. A New York Sabbath school has added $90 per annum. Various congregations also of the Presbyterian church appear to have been touched with a feeling of compassion for these poor suffering Indians. In this way large contributions have been made in kind, sufficient, it is believed, for clothing the scholars for one year. So great an interest has been manifested in this matter that we regard it as a favorable indication from the Author and Giver of every good and perfect gift towards the Ottoes and Omahas. We have reason to believe that funds will not be wanting to carry on this mission, and provide for the support and education of all the children who may be committed to our care.

It is hoped that our boarding school will go into operation, at farthest, by the 1st of December next. There has been great difficulty experienced in procuring materials, and it may be that my expectations in regard to this matter may not be realized. But no effort will be spared to accomplish this result, as it is exceedingly important to take the scholars into school about the time their parents start on the winter buffalo hunt.

Last spring the Omahas complained of want of means to cultivate the soil, and expressed a desire to go to work, by which I was induced to write to the board on the subject. Some of the good people to whom the matter was made known, responded to the appeal by subscribing $200 for the purpose of breaking prairie for them. Information of this donation was received so late that the whole sum could not be judiciously expended. As it was, a plough was purchased, a ploughman employed, and the oxen belonging to the mission used; so that in season for late planting we succeeded in breaking twenty acres. The sod corn in this region has done remarkably well this season, so that we have reason to hope for a good yield, which will certainly make an important addition to to the Omahas' means of subsistence.

The condition—both social and moral—of the Ottoes and Omahas is truly deplorable. Their ignorance of the principles of true religion and morals is extreme; and hence there is little that bears a resemblance to law or order among them. Their entire destitution of the arts which minister to the comfort of civilized life leaves them almost always both naked and hungry. Their life of hunting

is entirely opposed to their improvement in any of those respects mentioned; and at the same time, while it leaves them constantly exposed to their enemies, tends forever to confine them in their wretchedness, with destruction as the only alternative.

The plans of the Board of Foreign Missions contemplate two objects—first, to make known to these benighted people the saving truths of the gospel; and, secondly, to provide means for the education—both physical, mental, and moral—of their children. In process of time, one ordained missionary will be provided for each tribe, whose special duty it will be to preach the gospel, both publicly and privately, in season and out of season. In this matter, and indeed in all our other operations, we go upon the broad principle, that the gospel is the only civilizer. The root of heathenism is in the heart; hence the remedy must be applied there.

To carry out our educational plans, our main reliance will be upon the boarding school. It is hoped, if God smiles upon the effort, that at some future day the school will be so enlarged as to include all the children of the two tribes of a suitable age. In adtion to this, some provision will be made as soon as possible for a day school in Bellevue. At present the wants of the place are partly supplied by the Pawnee school; but larger provision seems to be needed. If no other arrangement can be made, it has been proposed to furnish a meal a day for those children who are near enough to this station to live at home and come daily to our school.

In all efforts for the good of the Indians, a state of quiet and peace is especially needed. The truth of this remark has been made manifest by the occurrences of the year. In the spring, the Indians were forced to leave their villages and go on the hunt before the planting season was fairly over by an alarm from their enemies—the Sioux. Quite lately, the Ottoes have suffered a murderous attack from these Indians; and now serious apprehensions are entertained respecting the fate of the Omahas, whose stay on the plains has been protracted beyond the usual period. It has become very evident that, unless the United States furnish efficient protection to these people, *their progress in civilization, or even their continued existence, is impossible.* In addition to this, there is reason to fear that, when our school is put into operation, the Sioux may be attracted to this point for the sake of destroying the children in the absence of the parents. Humanity and justice require the speedy use of appropriate means of defence, that a calamity so much to be dreaded may be avoided.

Having given you a brief statement of our plans and efforts for the improvement of the Ottoes and Omahas, it remains only to say that our only hope of success is in the powerful grace of God. There is nothing in the Indian character to encourage effort. To the eye of man, the task appears to be a hopeless one. We remember that it is the Divine decree to save the world by the foolishness of preaching; at the same time we look back over the history of the Christian world to see what has been accomplished by this despised means, and we are constrained to say, "Behold what God hath wrought!" Hence we cannot hesitate—hence we hope against

all human appearance of hope—hence we pray for a persevering spirit, having the promise that in due season, if we faint not, we shall reap.

With much respect, and earnest desire for your welfare, and the good of the Indians, truly, yours, &c.,

EDWARD McKINNEY.

Major JOHN MILLER,
Indian Agent, Council Bluffs Agency.

No. 42.

BELLEVUE, COUNCIL BLUFFS AGENCY,
September 16, 1847.

SIR: Agreeably to your request, and in compliance with the regulations of our government, I address a few lines to you, giving a brief statement of the Pawnee school.

We have in our family ten Pawnee children, which we board and clothe; also four half-breeds which attend school, two of which are Pawnees, and two belonging to the Ottoe interpreter; also three white children—making in all seventeen. We have had three children under our care since the 6th of May last. During that time they have made some progress in learning, although, owing to Sioux frights, and other causes known to yourself, they have not progressed as they would, had they been properly situated. Some of them read quite well in readings, and spell words of three or four syllables as well as the generality of white children. Seven of those who board in our family are girls and three boys. Some of the girls are very pretty sewers, and are quite handy at housework. You know, sir, the Pawnee children were brought here fourteen months since to save them from their enemies, and of course have very limited means to labor for their support; consequently there is quite a bill of expense comes on the teacher for provisions and clothing; I hope, therefore, the government will deem it proper to foot such bill of expense. There is no doubt but these children would flourish under a well regulated school of the manual labor system; but, sir, will you, or any officer of the Indian Department, tell me how this can be done under the existing circumstances of the Pawnees. They are hunted (as you well know, sir) more eagerly than the ferocious wild beast hunts his prey; and it is not enough that they are in pursuit of the Pawnees themselves, but they are determined to destroy every effort of the government and missionaries, and white men's lives are in danger.

If any one needs proof of this, I will refer them to the destruction of three thousand dollars expense of five or six months past, of labor, tools, &c., by the Sioux and others, and I very much fear the result of six months to come if government do not interfere. I hope to be pardoned for my plainness. I have had the experience

of thirteen years hardships, privations, and loss of property, and what is more, have been shot at, as also my wife; but we have reason to be thankful to Him who stays the hand of the destroyer, that our lives have been spared through dangers, seen and unseen, and are yet here to witness scenes of cruel bloodshed, as well as yourself.

With the above remarks I close by asking if something cannot be done to protect the Indians under your agency, if not, schools and every effort to benefit them, may (in my opinion) as well be abandoned.

Very respectfully yours, &c.,

SAMUEL ALLIS,
Pawnee Teacher.

Major JOHN MILLER,
Indian Agent.

No. 43.

WINNEBAGO SCHOOL,
September 25, 1847.

SIR: Since my last annual report, one hundred and forty-four scholars have been added to the school, making, with the number then reported, two hundred and forty-nine, now receiving instruction at the institution.

The average attendance of the pupils within the past year has been greater than at any former period, and it would be easy to increase the number here and to locate schools at other villages, provided the appropriation would admit of it.

The following are the studies of the children, viz:

In geography and history	14
In arithmetic	30
In Worcester's 4th reader	2
In McGuffey's 4th reader	6
In do 1st reader	4
In do 2d reader	15
In do spelling book	37
In Sander's series	21
In eclectic primer	42
In words of one syllable	26
In alphabet	52

Forty of the above number are writing—most of whom present a fair legible hand.

A portion of the girls' time has been regularly devoted to domestic economy, such as knitting, sewing, washing, &c., and the boys have been employed on the farm, where suitable labor could be found.

I have never seen less intemperance among the Winnebagoes, since my first acquaintance with them, than during the last year, nor have they shown stronger indications of a disposition to cultivate the soil. The men are often seen at work, and they appear to appreciate more and more the labor of horses and use of wagons. Their fields have yielded an abundant harvest, so that but little suffering may be apprehended during the ensuing year from hunger.

I forbear making any suggestions at present, respecting future operations, inasmuch as the Indians are supposed to be on the eve of removing to their new homes, and it is not probable that changes would be deemed expedient, till after their settlement.

I will only add, that with me it is no longer a question of doubt respecting the practicability of civilizing the Winnebagoes. Should this desirable object fail to be accomplished, the blame will rest not on them, but upon those in charge of their interests.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. LOWRY,
Superintendent W. S.

General J. E. Fletcher, *U. S. Sub-Indian Agent.*

No. 44.

Ottowa Mission Station, *August* 10, 1847.

Sir: Since my last annual report, the blessings of Providence have continued to attend our labors. Four weekly meetings for preaching and prayer have been kept up, and nine have been added to the "Ottowa Baptist Mission Church" by baptism.

In October last, Miss E. S. Morse, of the Cherokee mission, was instructed to teach a district school among the Ottowas. She arrived in June, and opened a school at the Ottowa station. The number of children who attended is 17—average number 11—of whom are in the alphabet, 5; orthography, 12; reading, 10; writing, 8; arithmetic, 5.

The Ottowas, as a nation, are gradually improving their houses, fields, and stock, and are becoming more industrious, temperate, moral, and religious.

The general health of this people has been much better during the last year than it was the two preceding years.

The missionaries at this station are three in number, viz: myself and wife, and Miss E. S. Morse, who labor under the patronage of the executive committee of the American Baptist Mission Union of Boston, Massachusetts, of which Rev. Solomon Peck is corresponding secretary.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOTHAM MEEKER.

Col. A. J. Vaughan, *Indian Sub-agent.*

No. 45.

POTTAWATOMIE BAPTIST MISSION,
August 12, 1847.

SIR: At the date of mine of last year, I was flattering myself that ere this we should have had our school in successful operation at the new house of the Pottowatomies; but in this I have been disappointed, as they show no disposition to leave their present house. This we exceedingly regret, as we cannot, in the short time allowed them to remain here, organize a boarding school.

The board of the A. I. M. Association have appropriated $1,500 for the erection of buildings at the contemplated residence of the Pottowatomies, and we wait with much solicitude their advances on that subject, especially as the feeling gains among them that they cannot live in the country assigned them by their last treaty. At the earliest moment, however, after they shall have indicated their place of settlement, our buildings will be put under contract. At the instance of those who superintend this school, and when it was expected that the Indians would move last spring, the number of boarding scholars was reduced to five, who have been regularly taught by me. In the meantime, I have devoted all the time that the school did not require to the study of the language.

Four of the pupils are females, from six to twelve years of age. One boy, six years old. All make pleasing progress in study. One little girl, six years old, taken last January, then entirely ignorant of our language and letters, now spells with facility on and off the book, in tables of five syllables, and reads in McGuffey's second reader. Another, taken about the same time, spells and reads; a third reads, writes, and studies first lessons in arithmetic; the remaining two spell in two letters. They have also been taught sewing, knitting, and domestic economy.

No children are more sprightly, or promise more from natural endowments than these: hence my opinion is, that the difficulty of elevating the Indian lies not in a want of mental capacity or peculiarity of character, but in the debasing effects of influences which hang around him from his cradle to the grave. In the fact that some have attained to stations of respectability in the midst of all opposition, is found abundant evidence that he is highly susceptible of ascending in the scale of civilization. The difficulty is not in himself, but in the circumstances under which he is found. Who would think of teaching religion or letters in our cities where the abandoned sons of ocean hold their midnight revels? and yet it would be as easy to impart such instruction there as here. As well might the government expect the rose to bloom on a burning kiln as that morals, letters, or religion, could be taught amid the steams of alcohol.

Intemperance, leading to degradation and poverty, is the great obstacle with which we have to contend, and, Atlas-like, is growing in strength and magnitude. Can it be arrested? Would it not be better, rather than suffer the present state of things to exist, to give

all that is due the Indians at once to those who injure them, and thus buy a truce with evil until the hand of charity, untramelled, might do its office?

If woman may be allowed to feel any interest in the honor of our country and of humanity, permit me to appeal to you and to the government in behalf of this afflicted and much injured race—the orphan of the American family.

Respectfully,

E. McCOY.

A. J. VAUGHAN, Esq., *Sub-agent*.

No. 46.

WEA BAPTIST MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL,
August 14, 1847.

DEAR SIR: I received yours of the 8th instant in due time, but have not had leisure until now to answer your request. During the past year not only our missionary family, but the Indians of these tribes have suffered much from sickness. They number considerably less now than they did twelve months ago. Their rapid decrease is doubtless attributable, in part, to their free access to whiskey dealers on their borders.

I am sorry to say that one of their own race, who has lately emigrated to this country, has contributed more or less to this sad work. Public worship has been interrupted at the station by the introduction of spirits by the aforesaid emigrant. But notwithstanding the above trade is persisted in *almost* unmolested, we are not without hope that our labor is not altogether in vain. The advancement of these tribes in civilization and industry, though gradual, is very perceptible; many of their former prejudices and superstitions have given place to better things. The school has been prosperous and encouraging during the past year, averaging between ten and eighteen scholars; the parents of whom express entire satisfaction with its rules and order. They seem to be gaining confidence in their missionaries, and are becoming willing for us to control their children without any dictation from them. In a word, there is much encouragement, and great cause for Protestants to prosecute their work among these people. I cannot conclude without alluding to our worthy friend, Baptiste Peoria, who has done much for the Wea and Piankeshaw Indians. His influence is not only great, but his counsel good, rendering himself of great service with the missionary in elevating these people from their present degraded condition.

I am, sir, with respect, your obedient servant,

B. M. ADAMS.

Colonel A. J. VAUGHAN,
Indian Sub-agent.

No. 47.

SUGAR CREEK CATHOLIC MISSION,
August 7, 1847.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with my duty of giving you the annual report of our mission and schools amongst the Pottowatomie Indians here at Sugar creek, I hereby lay before you the following few statements concerning the same, as I deem it unnecessary to mention in detail what you yourself have been able to see and witness amongst our Indians.

The Pottowatomies who live at our mission form a congregation of upwards of 1,300 members of the Catholic church, accustomed to sober, industrious habits, emulating the white man in the various duties and exercises of a civilized life; and being so remarkable for their piety and assiduous attendance to church duties that our church, large as it is, is unable to contain the thronged multitude of Christians. Our schools, also, have been in constant operation; the male English class numbers seventy-eight attendants, the female class sixty. The same branches of useful knowledge we have labored to impart to our pupils as in the preceding years, as the accompanying schedules of the studies and progress of each individual testify; though, for further information as to the particulars of the system of teaching we have adopted for our schools, the education we give to our scholars, &c., reference may be had to our preceding reports, in which we presume this has sufficiently been specified. Wherefore, passing over this subject, I beg leave to add one word more about our missions.

Long since we used, in our excursions, to visit the Peorias, a destitute, forlorn tribe of Indians, who seemed not only to need our assistance, but to be truly worthy of it. The wretched state in which we first found them was really pitiful; but, thanks to Him who calls himself the father of the poor, no sooner had they began to embrace the doctrines of the Catholic church, than they began to emerge from their state of wretchedness; they became models of temperance and industry; and, I may say, that their condition, both in a moral and temporal point of view, has been so admirably improved that they have excited their neighboring brethren to a laudable emulation; wherefore, almost the whole tribe of Piankeshaws have commenced to tread in the footsteps of the former, and, like them, to live as good, sober, industrious members of our church; others are preparing likewise to quit and change their old modes of living; and, in fact, so favorable are the dispositions of many of the Indians towards a change for the better, and the habits of civilization, that, in correspondence with this general manifestation of good will, we have determined upon extending and multiplying our missions as much as our means will allow; and that if the government and its respectable officers should lend us the hand, and bear part of our expenses, we doubt not

but we shall effect, ere long, still more good amongst our Pottawatomies and their neighboring red brethren.

Dear, sir, most respectfully, yours,

J. F. L. VERREYDT.

COL. VAUGHAN,
Pottawatomie Sub-Agency.

No. 48.

IOWA AND SAC MISSION,
September 30, 1847.

SIR: The work of missions and improvement by schools among Indians are so gradual and slow in their progress, and so mixed up with collateral affairs, that it is difficult for those most intimately associated with them to tell, at any time, just how much is accomplished. Like other works of improvement, the first and most important work is to lay a good foundation. How far we may have succeeded in laying a foundation is not for us to say—nor indeed, is it possible for us precisely to tell.

Whatever we have yet accomplished, is in preparing the way and laying a foundation for future usefulness. Long as we have been among the Iowas, we have not evidence to believe that any one of the adult Indians of the nation or village has yet experienced a change of heart. The only case of hope was the girl in our family, who died last spring. When told on her death-bed that she must soon depart, her reply was, (and the last sentence she spoke,) "Oh! then, won't I see Moses and the Lamb?"

Our buildings are now up and our school in operation. Since the first, we have received in all about seventy scholars, though, at the present time, there are not in constant attendance over twenty. Some have run away—and some are helping their parents to take care of the fall crops. As soon as their corn is gathered, and they are ready to start on the hunt, we hope to have as many as we can take from the Iowas.

The Sacs have not yet sent any, nor do we know that they will—though the last interview with them was more favorable than usual. When Mr. Lowrie, from New York, the corresponding secretary of the Committee on Foreign Missions, visited us last spring, he told us to divide our stock of clothing with the Sacs, even should they not send any children to the school. This was thought proper, particularly in view of the large sum they paid yearly to the school, and for which they have received no return. The offer was made, and the effect was evidently favorable.

We have lately received two boys from the mountains, said to be of the "Blackfeet" tribe. They are fine little boys. We are indebted to the agency of a Mr. Papau, a gentlemen in St. Joseph, for having them brought to our school. We have also two children who are half Osage. The children who have remained with us,

have made commendable progress, both in the Indian and English languages; have memorized between seventy and eighty questions; also a number of hymns in their own language, which they can sing beautifully without any assistance. In needle and kitchen work, the girls have also well advanced. We have been at a loss for suitable help, both in teaching and in the kitchen, which is a serious draw-back in our work, but we are not in the least discouraged.

Our little press has until lately been idle for some time—not being able to gain time from other duties to attend to it. Portions of the Scripture have been translated, and a part of Matthew's gospel printed. A synopsis of the Iowa language has been prepared and is now in the press. We have also an elementary and hymn book printed and in use in the school.

Our help at the station, with the compensation allowed, is as follows:

Mr. Hamilton and wife, ...$200,00
S. M. Irwin and wife, ...200,00
One hired hand on farm, at $11 per month, ..132,00
Two girls in kitchen, one $40, and one $60, ..100,00

Mr. and Mrs. Blooker are also here at this time, but expect to leave soon. We have also an occasional hand on the farm, and there is an allowance of $25 to each white child in our families. The entire estimates of our expenses, one year, for forty scholars, including salaries, &c., but exclusive of clothing and transportation, is $1,735,00, but we hope to get along on less the present year.

We have a fine crop of corn, potatoes, beans, cabbages, &c. We have been favored with much better health than usual this season, which calls loudly for an increase of our energies and exertions in the work before us.

We do not think of anything more that may be interesting or proper for us to give in this report. Accept our best wishes for your comfort and happiness.

Yours, truly,
S. M. IRWIN,
W. HAMILTON.

W. E. Rucker, Esq.,
Indian Sub-agent, Great Nemaha, Mo.

No. 49.

Great Nemaha Sub-agency,
September 30, 1847.

Sir: I entered upon the duties of my office on the first day of March of the present year; but the season was very cool and backward, and the Indians were very dilatory in preparing their ground for the plough, and even averse to having it ploughed until the

weather should become warm; therefore I ploughed very little until near the 10th of April, when I started two teams and kept them constantly going until it was too late to plant.

In consequence of their ground being mostly in detached pieces, (some of them less than one-fourth of an acre, and *many* less than half an acre,) it is impossible for me to form anything like a correct estimate of the quantity of ground ploughed; but I am confident it was as much, if not more, than they ever had ploughed for them before in any one season, and more than the Indians have attended as it should have been done to produce advantageously. I have in vain endeavored to persuade them to forsake their small patches and cultivate more ground in large bodies. Like many whites, they cannot be pursuaded that any course is better than "the good old way" which their fathers and grandfathers followed.

The season has been very favorable, not only for raising the crops, but, thus far, for securing them; and the squaws, who perform all the labor, have taken such advantage of it (when sober themselves, and when not kept from work by drunken Indians) as to raise large quantities of corn, beans, pumpkins, squashes, &c., which they are now getting well secured in good condition. They have certainly much more than they can consume within the next twelve months unless they are extravagantly wasteful.

FREDERICK LYDA,
Iowa farmer.

WM. E. RUCKER, Esq.,
Indian Sub-agent, Great Nemaha Sub-agency.

No. 50.

SAC AND FOX PATTERN FARM OF MISSOURI,
October 1, 1847.

SIR: The farming operations of the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri have been conducted upon the same plan, and with about the same success, as in the two previous years. The crops raised on the Pattern farm are superior to those of any former year. The wheat crop will amount to about eleven hundred bushels, which, estimated at its real value to the Indians, would alone pay the salary of the farmer and assistant farmer. The corn crop amounts to between sixty and seventy acres, and is also very heavy. Their potato crop was small, but very good. They have all, without an exception I believe, raised a superabundance of corn, beans, pumpkins, squashes, &c., &c.

Since I had charge of the farming operations, the principal portion of the tribe have removed from their first residence, on their own land near the mouth of the Wolf river, some six miles higher up, and settled on the lands of the Kickapoos, with the consent and under an agreement with the latter tribe. They are anxious to have a field broke, and to make some permanent improvement

at their village. This would, I presume, be bad policy so long as the land belongs to the Kickapoos, as it might eventually lead to difficulty between the two tribes, which I have often told them. Under these circumstances they wish to effect an exchange of lands with the Kickapoos, to which they say the Kickapoos have agreed. The proposed arrangement, I understand, is this: the Kickapoos agree for the Sacs and Foxes to have the land north of Wolf river to the Kickapoo line, (which will include their present village,) running westward to the dragoon road from Fort Leavenworth to the Council Bluffs; for which they agree to take in exchange the same quantity of land from the eastern end of the Sacs and Foxes, lying on the Missouri river. I cannot forbear expressing the opinion that this would be a very advantageous arrangement for the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, as the location of their present village is a very fine one—land, timber, and water, all being good. Besides, it will place them at least eight miles from the whiskey traders on the Missouri; whereas, at their old village they could get whatever they were able to buy within two miles. This is the reason given by their chief, Ne-som-quot, for their removal; and I cannot too strongly recommend it to your notice. Another advantage which would be gained by their permanent settlement where they now live, is, that it would put a greater number of miles between them and the Iowas, with whom they are at continual variance for alleged thefts and depredations upon their property. I am satisfied that it would be greatly to the advantage of both tribes if they were much farther separated, as my observation has confirmed me in the belief that the two tribes can never live in peace while their villages are so near to each other. The blame, perhaps, rests on both sides; but this does not lessen the necessity for their separation. I am not aware of the official action necessary to effect the exchange of lands; but as both tribes are willing, and as it must be apparent that it would be greatly to the advantage of the Sacs and Foxes, and certainly not prejudicial to the Kickapoos, who have at any rate ten times more land than they need, I think that an agreement between the chiefs of the two tribes, made in the presence of their respective agents, and ratified by the Department, would be sufficient to justify the permanent settlement of the Sacs and Foxes at their present village. They say that they are anxious to raise cattle and hogs in accordance with the will of their great father, but that it is no use to try it while so near the Iowas, who would continually steal and kill them.

The line between the Iowas and Sacs is a source of continual complaint; and, if it has ever been established, its location is not properly understood by either tribe. I think it should be permanently fixed and marked to prevent difficulty. All causes of jealousy should be removed, as Indians are too apt to indulge this disposition even when there is no ground.

The Sacs and Foxes, according to the pay-roll of the present year, amount to one hundred and seventy-seven. This should not, however, be taken as an index of their true strength, as one-half of them, or more, have gone to the Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi since

their removal to the south. They have been led there by the very large annuity paid to that tribe, and the indebtedness and consequent poverty of their own; but a majority of them will return in a year or two, as their debts are now nearly paid, and the dividend hereafter will be larger. Many of them are now anxious to return, and would do so but for a false pride, and for fear of being laughed at by their former friends and associates. It will not be long before their pride will give way to their obvious interest, and they will perhaps all return.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. W. FORMAN,
Sac and Fox farmer.

Major W. E. RUCKER,
Indian Sub-agent, Great Nemaha Sub-agency.

No. 51.

CHOCTAW AGENCY, *October* 20, 1847.

SIR: In compliance with your recent instruction, I proceed to furnish an abstract of the reports of the superintendents of the different schools in this agency.

The Chuahla Female Seminary at Pine Ridge, near Fort Towson, is under the charge of the Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury; 44 scholars have attended during the last year. Of these 33 were boarders, and 11 day scholars; of the boarders, 24 were supported by the nation, the remainder by their friends, or by their own labor. In the school room the girls are under the charge of Miss Goulding, and are instructed in arithmetic, the elements of natural philosophy, geography, grammar, and history, besides the usual exercises in writing, composition, committing portions of Scripture to memory, &c., &c.

Out of school, the greater portion of the girls are employed, under the direction of Miss Slate, in making dresses for themselves and others, and in the manufacture of various articles of needle and fancy work. They have also made pantaloons and other garments for men, and have done a large amount of knitting and netting, &c., and they are divided into companies, which relieve each other from time to time in the labors of the kitchen and dining room.

The female school at Wheelock, 15 miles east of Fort Towson, is under the charge of the Rev. Alfred Wright; 24 pupils are educated and maintained at the expense of the nation; 13 attended as day scholars, boarding at home; and 8 were boarded at the expense of their friends, or in consideration of their services, making in all 45 scholars. The teachers are Miss Dolbeau and Miss Dickinson, and the branches taught are the same as at Pine Ridge, with the addition of an elementary work on astronomy. The course out of school is also the same.

Mr. Wright has also under his supervision, at Norwalk, 5 miles from his residence, a school for boys, under the immediate charge of Mr. H. U. Pitkin; 27 pupils have been in regular attendance. Their studies are similar to those of the girls at Wheelock. Instruction in music is also given, "on the plan of the Boston Academy."

The Rev. Cyrus Byington is superintendent of the Igunobi Female Seminary, near the southeastern corner of the Choctaw country. He reports 50 pupils, of whom 9 were small boys, attending from the neighborhood as day scholars. The teachers are Miss Hall and Miss Keyes, and the general arrangements, in school and out, is about the same as that described at Pine Ridge.

No report has been received from the Rev. Mr. Hotchkins, superintendent of the Koonshu Female Seminary. It is presumed that no material change in its condition has occurred since the date of his last report. The Choctaw trustees and others, who were present at the examination of this institution in July last, speak in the highest terms of its general management, and the progress made by the scholars.

The superintendent of Armstrong Academy, the Rev. R. D. Potts, does not state any facts in relation to the condition of his school, further than that the boys, after suffering a great deal from sickness, causing a suspension of operations, are at present doing well. He adds that there is a farm of fifty acres connected with the institution, cultivated chiefly by the boys, which yields an ample supply of corn, &c.

The Rev. J. B. Ramsey states that the institution under his charge (Spencer Academy) has also suffered severely from sickness, which assumed the form of an epidemic, and prostrated a large number of boys, terminating fatally in several instances. Of late, the health of the students, with one or two exceptions, has been good. The number in attendance at the examination in July was 78. Of their studies, Mr. R. says, "there is one small class reading in the Latin reader, and another class studying Latin grammar; the rest are in various stages of advancement. We have endeavored to pay more attention to the cultivation of music than formerly, and hope to be able to effect still more. Speaking and composition are weekly exercises." Out of school, the boys are required to spend two hours and a half daily in agricultural and mechanical labor, under the direction of their teachers.

The Fort Coffee Academy is divided into two branches; one for boys at Fort Coffee, the other for girls, at New Hope, 6 miles distant. At the former, the Rev. W. L. McAlister, the superintendent, reports 54 scholars; at the latter 25. The boys are instructed in grammar, geography, arithmetic and natural philosophy. The girls in geography, arithmetic, and grammar. "The boys," says Mr. McA., "have labored generally a part of each day on the farm, and the girls have been more or less employed about domestic affairs, when out of school."

All the establishments enumerated are supported by the joint contribution of the Choctaws and the different missionary societies.

The schools at Pine Ridge, Wheelock, and Igunobi, each receive $1,600 per annum from the Choctaws. The Koonshu Female Seminary receives $3,000; Armstrong Academy, $2,900, and Fort Coffee and Spencer Academies, $6,000 per annum each. There is also an additional allowance of $333 33 per annum each to Armstrong and Spencer Academies; a like sum is paid to Mr. Wright for the school at Norwalk, and $2,000 per annum from the civilization fund is expended at Spencer Academy. I have no data to show the exact amount contributed by the different missionary societies.

A short time before his death, my predecessor visited the schools under the care of Mr. Kingsbury and Mr. Wright, and, I understand, expressed the utmost gratification at the progress made by the scholars. At Pine Ridge, one of the students, a full blooded Indian girl, made several intricate and complicated calculations on the black-board, in his presence, with all the rapidity and accuracy of the most expert accountant; and, at Wheelock, under the management of the accomplished instructress in the higher department, the pupils showed a wonderful degree of proficiency in various branches. At this school, there were shown some very creditable specimens of drawings, executed by the scholars after receiving comparatively few lessons. The exhibitions, however, that made the greatest impression was at Norwalk. Besides the ordinary routine of studies, the teacher, Mr. Pitken, had taken great pains to interest the boys in vocal music. He had them so well trained that he could at pleasure cause the entire school, without the slightest discord, to sound any given note in the gamut. The perfection they had attained in their musical exercises was in fact astonishing, but it was by no means at the expense of other branches. Whatever they had learned at all, had evidently been taught thoroughly.

In regard to the schools in other parts of this superintendency, I have no information beyond what is contained in the reports of agents, herewith forwarded. The department is aware that manual labor schools are to be established among the Chickasaws, Creeks, and Quapaws. As yet, I believe, no actual steps have been taken towards the execution of these plans, further than the selection of a site for one of the Creek schools.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD,
Acting Superintendent Western Territory.

Hon. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

APPENDIX TO THE REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

APPENDIX

TO THE

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

BENT'S FORD, ARKANSAS RIVER,
September 18, 1847.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations and instructions of the Indian Department, I have the honor of submitting the following report:

I left St. Louis about the 20th of May, and proceeded to Fort Leavenworth, for the purpose of joining the first troops leaving there for Santa Fe. On my arrival at Fort Leavenworth, I ascertained that Lieutenant Love (an excellent young officer of 1st dragoons) would start in a few days for Santa Fe, in command of an escort of dragoons, furnished the paymaster in charge of the government funds. Lieutenant Love invited me to join him, which invitation I gladly accepted; and, having some further preparations to make, I repaired immediately to Westport for that purpose. Having soon completed my arrangements, I set out from Westport, and joined the command, on the Santa Fe road, on the 10th of June, seventy-five miles from Leavenworth. We travelled along happily and with much expedition, until we arrived at Pawnee Fork, a tributary of the Arkansas river, three hundred miles from Fort Leavenworth. Here we came up with two large government trains, loaded with commissary's stores for Santa Fe, together with a few traders, who were travelling with them for protection. They had been detained at this place several days on account of high water. During their detention, and two days before our arrival, they were attacked by a large body of Indians, but sustained no loss, except one man slightly wounded. On the opposite, or west side of the stream, were also encamped a return train from Santa Fe, (empty,) and bound for Fort Leavenworth. After the unsuccessful attempt of the Indians on the east side, they dashed across the stream, and drove off, and killed nearly all the cattle belonging to the return train, and left the party without the means of hauling the wagons further. Therefore, by the imbecility and bad management of the party, over twenty more wagons, with their necessary accoutrements, were added to the frequent losses sustained by the government on that road, and from like causes. From their own account, they had more than sufficient time to have secured the cattle within the enclosure formed by the wagons, but did not attempt to do so until they were in possession of the Indians, when it was found to be too late. The morning after our arrival at Pawnee Fork, the waters having subsided sufficiently

to let the wagons pass over, all hands made preparations for a fresh start; but, before leaving, Lieutenant Love gave directions to the commanders of each train to travel and encamp as near him as would be convenient during the remainder of the trip, or at least until they passed through the most dangerous part of it. These directions were very agreeable to one of the men in charge, but to the other was quite the reverse; he remarked, that he had already received his instructions from the quartermaster at Fort Leavenworth, and was not disposed to submit to further instructions. Lieutenant Love told him he must submit, as he would not suffer so much government property to run the risk of falling into the hands of the Indians. The fording of the stream was then commenced, and found to be slow and difficult, which operation consumed the greater part of the day; however, all passed over without any accident, and encamped on the west side of the stream in good order, and ready to pursue the journey on the morrow. The next morning all were moving in good time—Mr. Hayden (the stubborn man) in front, and a considerable distance in advance. He observed to some of his men at starting, that "if those gentlemen in the rear encamped near him that night they would have to travel after dark." However, we travelled on rapidly, and came in sight of him near sundown, and encamped at least a mile from the Arkansas river, and out on the level plain. Lieutenant Love bore off towards the river, and encamped on its banks, being the most convenient for grass and water, as well as safest from an attack, particularly from a party of horsemen. Lieutenant Love was by no means satisfied with the isolated position of Hayden's train, but, it being late, he concluded to let it remain for the night, with a full determination to compel him to comply with his orders for the future. The opportunity was too favorable for the Indians to let it pass without making an effort; if the Indians themselves had have made the selection of the ground, they could not have chosen a more favorable position for the accomplishment of their plans. The next morning, as soon as the cattle were turned out of the *caral* to graze, the Indians made a charge, and succeeded in driving them off. Lieutenant Love (as was his usual practice every morning) was out at the time, on the highest point, with his spy-glass, reconnoitreing the country around, before he permitted his horses to be taken out to graze; he soon discovered the difficulty at Hayden's camp, and immediately ordered his men to saddle and mount instantly. The order was soon obeyed; but just at that moment, and when Lieutenant Love was about to lead his men to the rescue, a large body of Indians, not before discovered, made a demonstration near our camp, seemingly with the intention of attacking us, which they would have certainly done if Lieutenant Love had led off his whole command. This sudden and unexpected manœuvre of the Indians changed the intentions of Lieutenant Love, and it was that only which caused the success of the Indians that day. If Lieutenant Love had led off his command in pursuit of the Indians with the cattle, he certainly would have defeated them and retaken the cattle. But his own camp would have been

in danger of being defeated and robbed, and he very prudently remained in it, at the same time sending twenty-five men, under the command of a sergeant, to the assistance of Hayden. Those men charged gallantly amongst the Indians, who, by the time they reached them, were a long distance off; and not being supported by the men of Hayden's train, as was expected, were completely overpowered by numbers, and defeated, with the loss of five men killed, and six severely wounded; the remainder being obliged to make a precipitate retreat, in order to save themselves from the overwhelming numbers that surrounded them; for, by this time, many of the party which had threatened our camp, finding we were prepared for them, and not daring to attack us, dashed off at full speed, and joined the other party with the cattle. This reinforcement of the Indians proved fatal to the dragoons. Here, then, was a dilemma; five men killed, six severely wounded, thirty wagons, with their loading, left without the means of taking them to their destination, and all this arising from the stubbornness and self-will of one man. I am very certain that, if Hayden had obeyed the order of Lieutenant Love, and encamped where he should have done, no such misfortune would have happened.

At this unfortunate encampment we were obliged to remain several days, on account of the inability of the wounded to travel; but so soon as they were sufficiently recovered to make slow and easy marches, we again set out, taking with us Hayden and his train, the other train with us having escaped injury or accident, and having to each wagon five and six strong yoke of oxen, were divided out equally, according to the weight to be hauled, some with two yoke, others again with three. In this way, averaging from five to eight miles a day, we reached the government depot, now called Fort Mann, twenty-five miles below the crossing of the Arkansas river. At this place I intended to remain until an opportunity offered to go to Bent's Fort; but, finding Fort Mann abandoned, and a perfect wreck, I gave up the idea of halting; and, as there was no other resource, continued on to Santa Fe, where we arrived, without any further occurrence worthy of notice, on the 6th of August, just two months from Leavenworth. Mr. Hayden, his party, and whole train, were left in deposite at Fort Mann, with instructions to remain until relief could be sent him.

I feel a strong disposition to say something in regard to the condition of New Mexico; however, I presume it has been represented by more experienced and abler hands. Yet, I doubt much whether the government is in full possession of all the facts, or at all aware of the deplorable condition of that country. The Indians are ravaging the territory throughout, murdering and carrying off the inhabitants to a much greater extent than heretofore; and what would seem very strange, they carry their hostilities (except when they want presents, and then they are as gentle as lambs,) almost within gun-shot of the headquarters of the army of the west.

The state of discipline amongst the volunteers, the efficiency of the officers of the law, civil and military, and which of the two have the prerogative, or whether either exists. On all those mat-

ters I am unable to decide, or give an opinion. It has been matter of surprise to many, that in a country so healthy and salubrious, and with so gentle a climate as New Mexico, so many volunteers should die of disease. Let those wonderers pay a visit to Santa Fe, and remain one week, as I have done, and observe the life there led, day and night, and they will be still more astonished that so many have lived. I remained in Santa Fe one week, when I found an opportunity of getting to my destination, in company with some volunteers whose term of service had expired, and who chose to pass by this place, where I arrived on the 29th August, being over three months from Saint Louis getting to my destination. Before leaving Santa Fe, I met with the man whom I had all along intended to engage as interpreter for the Chyennes and Aripohoes, he having been in charge at Fort Mann at the time of its abandonment, and the garrison being reduced to seven men, he was obliged, like myself, to keep with the current of travel, and got to Santa Fe a short time before us. I engaged him for three months only, at twenty-five dollars per month, for the purpose of making an excursion with me amongst the Chyennes and Aripohoes. This is the only way that men of that description can be engaged for the sum that the department allows for that purpose; and it is only when they are disengaged that they can be had on such terms—the traders paying them more for the winter's trade, besides finding them in provisions, &c., than the department allows for the whole year. However, under the present circumstances, and while so many different tribes are to be dealt with, all speaking different tongues, the mode I have adopted, and intend for the future to adopt, is the best and most economical. Good interpreters value their services in this country at a high rate; but no man, of any kind, could be hired here at three hundred dollars per annum, without provisioning him also. Soon after my arrival here, I had a very satisfactory interview with a large portion of the Chyennes, and a few of the Aripohoes, who, on hearing of my arrival, hastened to see me, no doubt expecting to receive presents, but in that they were sadly disappointed. I directed the chiefs and braves to assemble in council, which they soon did, and by the assistance and kindness of the people of this fort, I was enabled to provide them with a feast of bread, coffee, &c., which is always expected by those Indians on such occasions. After the feasting was ended, I made them a speech, in which I explained the object of my visit amongst them, and the kind intentions of the United States government towards them, as well as towards the Aripohoes, Sioux, and all Indians who conducted themselves in a peaceable and proper manner towards us, as well as each other. I also told them that I was particularly instructed by their great father to ascertain what Indians were engaged in plundering and robbing travellers on the Santa Fe road, and throughout the country, in order that when he sent his soldiers into the country, the innocent should not suffer equally with the guilty. In fact, I explained to them the policy and intentions of the government towards Indians generally, and that their great father was disposed to treat them more like his

children than like enemies; but that there were some things which he could not overlook, and these were, the murdering and plundering his people—the perpetrators of which would be speedily and severely punished. I reminded them of the great diminution and continual decrease of all game, and advised them to turn their attention to agriculture, it being the only means to save them from destruction. I pointed out and enumerated the many evils arising from the use of spiritous liquors, and advised them to abandon altogether so degrading and abominable a practice.

In reply to what I had said, one of the principal chiefs (Yellow Wolf) spoke as follows: "My father, your words are very good; the Chyennes all hear and cherish them, and those that are absent shall hear and remember them also. My father, we are very poor and ignorant, even like the wolves in the prairie; we are not endowed with the wisdom of the white people. Father, this day we rejoice; we are no more poor and wretched; our great father has at length condescended to notice us, poor and wretched as we are; we now know we shall live and prosper, therefore we rejoice. My father, we have not been warring against your people; why should we? on the contrary, if our great father wishes our aid, the Chyenne warriors shall be ready at a moment's warning to assist in punishing those bad people, the Camanches." Here I interrupted him, saying that their great father had plenty of soldiers at his command—moreover, it was not his wish to embroil his red children in war with each other—on the contrary, he wished to see them unite in harmonious brotherhood. He continued—"Tell our great father that the Chyennes are ready and willing to obey him in every thing; but, in settling down and raising corn, that is a thing we know nothing about, and if he will send some of his people to learn us, we will at once commence, and make every effort to live like the whites. We have long since noticed the decrease of the buffalo, and are well aware it cannot last much longer. Tell him also," he said, "that the white people, a short time ago, killed one of our wisest and best chiefs; that the tears of the orphans and relatives of the deceased chief are not yet dried up; yet we still remain the friends of the whites." A government train of wagons passing early last spring, and arriving at the Arkansas river, were discovered by a party of Chyennes returning from the Camanches. The chief of the party, (Old Tobacco,) who has always been considered a good Indian, and very friendly to all Americans, determined to apprise the party thus discovered, of the near vicinity, aud hostile intentions, of the Camanches. On entering the camp of the whites for that purpose, he was fired upon and severely wounded, and died of his wounds five days after. Before dying, he called his family and relatives together, and told them not to avenge his death; that his friends had killed him without knowing who he was. What is meant by drying up tears is, payment for the dead man; it is a custom of all the Indians of this country to demand payment for all such occurrences, whether it happens by accident or design. When a refusal to pay is given, and when the case is between different tribes, war ensues; if the

occurrence has taken place between families of the same tribe, payment or retaliation is the consequence, and not unfrequently leads to a separation of the tribe. Therefore, under all those circumstances, had I means and power, I would have dried the fountain from which flowed their tears for the deceased chief.

On the conclusion of the "big talk" with the Chyennes, I addressed myself more particularly to the Aripohoes, who were present, remarking that all they heard, applied equally to them as well as all other Indians who conducted in a peaceable and proper manner, and asked what they had to say in reply. They said, "their ears were open and heard all, but could make no answer at present, inasmuch as they knew not the sentiments of their tribe; moreover, that some of their people had already joined the Camanches against the Americans, which he much regretted; therefore, he was ashamed to talk." I advised him to send for his people, and all might yet be well; he promised to do so. I purchased some tobacco and distributed it amongst them, and then adjourned the council.

I do not wish to be understood as placing much confidence in the profession of the Indians of this country; neither do I in those of any other. Circumstances and necessity may seem to change their disposition; but ingratitude, low, mean cunning, cowardice, selfishness and treachery, are the characteristics of the whole race. Yet I believe the Chyennes are serious in their professions of friendship; they plainly see what must befal them on the extinction of game, and therefore wish to court the favor of the United States government, hoping to obtain assistance. Many of them appear very desirous to commence raising corn, but I fear the effort will be found too laborious for them, unless they are encouraged and assisted. If the government wishes those Indians to settle down, they must give them some assistance, at least towards a beginning. A few dollars expended with those who are now willing to commence, might work some good, and be the means of inducing others to follow the example; and by the time the buffalo is all gone, those Indians will be prepared to live without them.

The Chyennes claim this river and the surrounding country, without any definite or defined limits; and, together with the Aripohoes and Sioux, occupy indiscriminately the whole country along the eastern base of the Rocky mountains, from the northern frontier of New Mexico up to the Missouri river, without regard to lines or limitations of boundary; and sometimes they extend their war and hunting excursions across the mountains, into the country of the Snake and Utawa Indians—as well as south into New Mexico, east down the Arkansas, Kansas, Platte and Missouri, to almost the very borders of our western settlements.

The Chyenne Indians, from the best authority, will not number over 280 lodges, and not exceeding 500 warriors. The Aripohoes, from a like source of information, are about 350 lodges, and can raise 800 warriors. The Sioux Indians of the north fork of Platte, and who roam in this country also, are about 800 lodges, and can turn

out from 2,000 to 2,500 warriors; the average number of the Sioux to each lodge is greater than those of the others.

The above Indians are all immediately in this agency, and may, by proper management, and by keeping liquor from amongst them, be kept quiet and tranquil. The Aripohoes are most to be dreaded, not on account of their superior bravery and courage, as they do not excel the others in that respect; but they are becoming very insolent of late, arising, no doubt, from the frequent defeat of the whites on the Santa Fe road, and perhaps they think that they could be as successful as the Camanches.

The Camanches and Kiaway Indians have been making endeavors to induce those here to join them in the war, representing the great advantages as well as the profits, without incurring the least risk. They have represented the whites who travel the Santa Fe road as easily killed as elk or buffalo, and not at all to be compared with the Texans. This is the Camanches's report to the Chyennes and Aripohoes, who have told me of it.

I received information, a few days ago, from the north fork of Platte, that a man by the name of John Ruchare, or Richarde, had been selling liquor to the Indians all summer. This same John Richarde is notorious in this country for violating the law in that respect, and has been known to declare frequently that he would continue to do so in defiance of all law, and in despite of all the agents the government might send into the country.

It is 380 miles from this to Fort Larramie, on the north fork of Platte, in the vicinity of which those violations of law are carried on. I shall leave here in a short time for the purpose of visiting Mr. Richarde, as well as some others who sometimes follow the same occupation; and, if I had a few men with me, and under my control, I would soon teach these gentlemen that a compliance with the law was the most profitable course. But being alone, and without means, not even for the hiring of a few Indians to assist and accompany me, it cannot be expected that I can accomplish all that is required by the department. However, I shall endeavor as far as possible to fulfil my instructions, and will start for the north fork in a few days, or at least as soon as I can find an opportunity to forward this document. At Fort Larramie, I hope to find United States troops, who will assist me in putting down this abominable practice. I have no apprehension about the large traders and men of capital, such as Pierre Chouteau, jr. & Co., nor from this establishment, (Bent's.) Those two, being the principal traders in the country, have long since ascertained that the traffic in spirituous liquors was becoming very unprofitable, and therefore have, I believe, discontinued it altogether; and, I have no doubt, would willingly assist in putting it down. This laudable change in their business has not emanated from a regard for the law, nor from philanthropic motives, but from the fact of its becoming a great nuisance, and very dangerous to those having large investments in the trade, and whose expenses were heavy; and, not being able to compete successfully with the numerous small traders who infest the country, and whose expenses were comparatively nothing—

whose whole stock in trade amounted to only a few trinkets and three or four hundred gallons of liquor, procured on the Missouri frontier, New Mexico, or of the Hudson Bay Company. The above causes, together with the great diminution of the proceeds of the Indian hunts, arising out of so much of their time being spent in drunkenness and debauch, have caused this great change.

I have been thus particular in showing the causes of its declination, not for the purpose of making it appear unnecessary to guard against it in future; on the contrary, to advise increased vigilance in order to prevent its revival.

It is greatly to be regretted that so little attention has been paid to the laws regulating intercourse with the Indians, as great evils have arisen from their neglect; and I know of none greater than permitting the licensed trader to take so many men of bad and desperate character into the country, and at the expiration, or before their term of service expires, casting them adrift amongst the Indians. It is by this class of men that great mischief has been done, and the law violated, as well while in the service of the traders as afterwards.

Many of those men not being American citizens, but Canadians, Mexicans, and Europeans, are not satisfied with violating the laws, but have been known to make and cause great mischief, by inciting the Indians against the government and people of the United States. Perhaps the evil does not exist now to such an extent as formerly, as there is not the same amount of business done, and therefore not the same number of men required.

About seventy-five miles above this place, and immediately on the Arkansas river, there is a small settlement, the principal part of which is composed of old trappers and hunters; the male part of it are mostly Americans, Missouri French, Canadians, and Mexicans. They have a tolerable supply of cattle, horses, mules, &c.; and I am informed that this year they have raised a good crop of wheat, corn, beans, pumpkins, and other vegetables. They number about 150 souls, and of this number there are about 60 men, nearly all having wives, and some have two. These wives are of various Indian tribes, as follows, viz: Blackfoot, Assineboines, Arickeras, Sioux, Aripohoes, Chyennes, Pawnees, Snake, Sinpach, (from west of the Great lake,) Chinock, (from the mouth of Columbia,) Mexicans, and Americans. The American women are Mormons; a party of Mormons having wintered there, and, on their departure for California, left behind two families. These people are living in two separate establishments near each other; one called "Punble," and the other "Hard-scrabble;" both villages are fortified by a wall 12 feet high, composed of *adobe*, (sun-dried brick.) Those villages are becoming the resort of all idlers and loafers. They are also becoming depots for the smugglers of liquor from New Mexico into this country; therefore they must be watched.

The Camanche and Kiaway Indians are those who have been infesting and marauding on the Santa Fe road all summer and spring; but, from information received from the Chynnes and Aripohoes, are now gone south. There are also a few of the Aripohoes with

them, and, in my opinion, some of our Missouri frontier Indians; either Delawares or Osages, or both. One Delaware who made his escape from Taos, after the battle of that place, has been known to have spent the spring and part of the summer amongst the Camanches. At Taos he fought desperately against the Americans, and is supposed to have killed the gallant Captain Burgwin, and three or four of the regulars, who were shot down in the assault on the church. After the defeat of the insurgents, he made his escape from that country, came out to the Arkansas river, where he found the Chyennes, told them what had happened at Taos, and that in the battle he killed five Americans. He used every effort in his power to induce the Chyennes to join him in a war against the whites, representing them as bad people, and the ruin of all Indians. This argument having failed, he remained but one night, and started the next morning for the Camanches. This Delaware, who is well known in this country by the name of "Big Negro," is now at home near Wesport. He arrived there a short time since, and had in his possession a rifle known to have belonged to a man by the name of Sharp, who was killed in June on Walnut creek, near the Arkansas river. The fact of his having this rifle in his possession is sufficient proof that he has been warring against us; at any rate, he is well known to have taken an active part against us in the insurrection of Taos. He has now gone to the States, no doubt for the purpose of getting supplies and inducing more of his tribe to join him. Such vagabonds should be looked after, as they are much to be dreaded, and may cause great trouble in this country. They should be prevented from intermingling with the Indians as much as possible.

I am of the opinion that the government should at once put forth strong and energetic measures for the subjugation of those Indians who have been committing so many depredations during the past two years. Commencing in good time (and whatever is done, let it be done effectually, as no temporizing policy will answer) will prevent others from entering on a like course, and awe them at once into a state of tranquility. This is not mere supposition; on the contrary, I am convinced that by teaching any one of those formidable tribes a good lesson, would be sufficient instruction for the whole of those on the east side of the Rocky mountains.

The lenient and temporizing policy which the government has always pursued with Indians on our western borders, and those living heretofore within the now boundary of the Union, will not do with the Indians inhabiting this great expanse of desert. In the case of the former, disagreements would frequently arise, and war ensue; but, before much blood was shed, on came the tide of emigration so numerous, and in such rapid succession, that what was expected to have become the scene of war, became that of peace, tranquility, and civilization. I am fully convinced that the force of emigration has done more towards the settling and tranquilizing the Indians than anything else.

In this country it is far otherwise. Here is an immense desert, inhabited by many wild, roaming, and formidable tribes of savages,

whose occupation is war and the plundering of their fellow men. And, inasmuch as the country they inhabit is altogether unfit for a civilized population, the savages now in occupation must always remain it. This desert and its inhabitants, intervening as they do between our late territorial acquisition and the United States, require the particular attention of government, or what would be much more advantageous, of an efficient military force, merely for the purpose of teaching the inhabitants thereof that we are their superiors in war as well as in every thing else. This lesson once taught, and our ability and willingness to punish insult and injury shown, I repeat, is all that is required to make the inhabitants of this country quiet and peaceable. I am well aware that the intentions of the government towards the Indians are conciliatory and humane. But those of this country who know not our strength, and attribute our forbearance to a dread of their great prowess, must be dealt with in precisely the opposite manner; which I hold to be the most judicious and economical, as it will be a great saving of blood and expenditure of money; and is, on the whole, the most philanthropic. Let them know they cannot pursue a marauding life with impunity, and they will soon turn their attention to something else.

I have entertained ardent and strong hopes that, inasmuch as the subjugation of the Indian tribes of this country would be considered a very peculiar service, a very peculiar force, and otherwise organized than that composing the army of the west, would be raised for that purpose. But I perceive it is otherwise, and that the same system, (that of the men electing their officers,) and all the evils arising out of that system, is still continued. I have no hesitation in saying that they will not answer the purpose required, for reasons, some of which I will give. The service being the most arduous, difficult, and of a very peculiar nature, will require great skill and experience in the management of a campaign, as well as a complete knowledge of the Indian character, habits, manners, and customs; and, above all, a thorough acquaintance with their mode and manner of warfare. Those are rare qualifications, and not likely to be selected out of a set of aspirants by those who know or think nothing about the capacity of their leader. It is only after they commence military duty, and on the march to New Mexico, that they find out they did not elect the proper candidate. Then follows a petition to the officer to resign; next a refusal of the officer to comply; then follows dissatisfaction, disgust for the service, and insubordination, which very naturally ensue, as men dislike very much to obey an order coming from an officer whom they consider unfit to command. Under these circumstances, they arrive in Santa Fe, dispirited, and, together with their horses, broken down and unfit for service, at least for a time. This should not be, nor would it, if men of experience had the command. They have a very excellent road from Fort Leavenworth all the way to Santa Fe, with plenty of grass and water at proper distances, except a few days on the Cimerrane; yet they cannot accomplish the trip without the utmost difficulty. Now, let me ask how, under all those circumstances, such a force can ever accomplish the subjugation of

the Camanches and Kiaway Indians, who are represented (and truly) as very expert horsemen, and almost continually on the move, whose flight (when necessary) across and over the desert is like unto the flight of birds over dreary and barren wastes which they inhabit, and in which lies their strength and security more than in any thing else.

I do not wish to be understood as casting reproach or reflection on the volunteers in mass; on the contrary, I have a high opinion of the material of which they are composed; it is the system of officer-making that I am opposed to. It is a want of the proper knowledge of the enemy they will have to contend with; it is a want of a proper knowledge of the best and safest mode of campaigning in the country—those are what I most dread. Show those men the enemy and they will do their duty; but I doubt much their ever getting a sight within striking distance; the enemy, however, will frequently strike them, when least expected and unprepared.

I will now show the kind of force which I should like to see organized and ready for service in this country, and at this time: 250 mounted riflemen, armed with short and handy rifles, not too heavy; one hundred well disciplined dragoons; one hundred Mexicans, armed with lances and a pair of horse-pistols, mounted on their own native horses; and two or three mountain howitzers, with a few men to manage them. Let all, then, be put under the command of an experienced officer, who understands well the nature of his duty in every particular, who would in a short time accomplish the desired object.

Of the 250 riflemen, I would have as many procured in this country as could be had. They would soon teach the others the real art of campaigning, and infuse a spirit of cheerfulness and contentment, which is rarely to be found amongst "green-horns;" they would also show an example of obedience and subordination which they well know how to appreciate, as well as practice. One hundred active and efficient Mexicans can be easily obtained for a service of the kind, and when serving and uniting in concert with Americans, will be found brave and daring to a fault, and cannot be excelled in the whole world for a service of the kind; of this I have had many proofs and long experience.

I received an order through your office from the adjutant general at Washington, on the commanding officer at Bent's Fort, for the Indian goods which were left there last year in deposite. I presented the order to Captain McKisick, acting quartermaster at Santa Fe, who informed me that the goods had all been taken to Santa Fe, and mostly distributed, no doubt to those Indians who are now devastating the country. This I consider bad policy, and well calculated to keep the Indians in a state of hostility; by such a course they have two sources of gain, and are very apt to take advantage of both. For my own part, I must state, that I have and will labor under disadvantages and embarrassments for the want of at least a part of those goods, which were distributed so liberally amongst the vagabond Indians of New Mexico. Any one at all acquainted with the character of the Indians of this country

must know how difficult it is to get along without some means, even as an inducement for them to collect together for any purpose. The fact is, they have been greatly corrupted by the traders, in the great competition in trade, which existed here for the past eight years. The Chyennes have wondered that their great father has not sent them something, as a token of regard for their good behaviour, and at the same time remark, that it was only those Indians who were in the habit of plundering the whites that ever get any thing in that way. The above remarks were not made to me, but reported by others. However, I believe it to be the impression of many Indians, and for that reason, I hold it the duty of every officer intrusted with the management of such affairs, to be very particular in the distribution of presents to Indians.

There are many more subjects in regard to this country and its inhabitants of which I would have gladly spoken, but I fear I have already become tedious and tiresome in the length of this report, but that has arisen from the great interest which I feel in every thing which concerns the far west.

I should have written sooner, and oftener, but my isolated position here affords but few opportunities, and even now the time of the departure of this report is very uncertain.

Should anything worthy of notice occur during my journey to the north fork of the Platte, I will write again from that place.

I am now in a state of recovery from a very severe indisposition, which attacked me on my way from Santa Fe to this place, and caused great debilitation and nervousness, which I hope will be an apology for the inaccuracies which may be found in this communication.

I intend to visit St. Louis early in the spring, or as soon as the winter trade is over; at which time I will arrange my accounts. The uncertainty of travel and the dangers of the road have prevented me from sending them with this.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

THOMAS FITZPATRICK,
Indian agent, Upper Platte and Arkansas.

To Thomas H. Harvey, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs,
St. Louis, Missouri.